

The Middlebury Campus

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Thursday, April 28, 2011

Since 1905

DJs headline spring concert

By Kathryn DeSutter
STAFF WRITER

This week the MCAB concerts committee announced its annual spring concert event, "Triptych," a three-DJ lineup that will feature DJs Drop the Lime, White Panda and Savoy. The three groups will perform Saturday, May 7 in Chip Kenyon '85 Arena. Doors open at 9:30 p.m.

Drop the Lime hails from New York City and is known for bass-heavy sets that often feature original vocals. White Panda, a mashup duo from Chicago, has all of their music available as free downloads on their website. Brooklyn-based Savoy will play a full-band set of remixes with a light show.

"We decided to do a DJ event because we thought the campus would be more into that kind of music — especially because it could be like a dance party, something they could have fun at — rather than a band that people would feel they had to know the music to attend," said MCAB con-

certs committee co-chair Catherine Ahearn '11. "We were looking to make the greatest amount of people happy."

"For the spring show, we were trying to look at [something in the] rock [genre] or a band and not just a performer, because we feel like that's really what's been lacking at Middlebury," added co-chair Hannah Wilson '11.

Ahearn reflected on the extended process of attempting to book a spring concert.

"It's been a really long process — really exhausting and frustrating — and ultimately we're just happy to bring something we think a lot of people would want to go to," said Ahearn.

When asked why skeptical students should attend the show, Wilson responded:

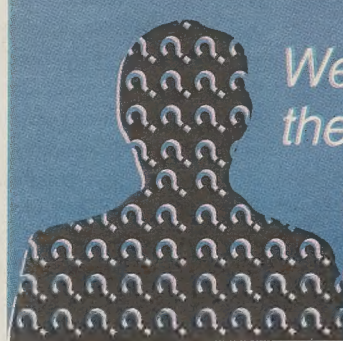
"You should go to this show because there will be lots of people there dancing and having a good time," said Wilson.

"It's like going to a giant party," she added.

The co-chairs plan to set the stage within the arena to make the dance floor smaller than the hockey rink itself. MCAB will also decorate the space in order to mask the hockey-rink atmosphere.

Tickets are currently on sale at the Box Office or online at go/box-office. Tickets are \$5 until Friday, \$7 until the day of the show and \$10 at the door.

SGA PRESIDENTIAL & COMMUNITY COUNCIL CO-CHAIR RUNOFF ELECTION



We interviewed the candidates...

Find out who we endorse on pg. 10

Alcohol study prompts forum

By Lea Calderon-Guthe
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

The College Alcohol Study found that 98.5 percent of participating students reported at least one negative experience due to someone else's drinking.

The survey was conducted through the Office of the Dean of the College in November 2010, and it asked about the views and experiences of 766 students, roughly a third of the student body, on everything from how much and where students drink to what students think about the College's alcohol policies.

"I think the data are concerning," said Dean of the College and Chief Diversity Officer Shirley Collado. "Similar to other campuses, [alcohol use] is a challenge that I think has an impact not only on issues related to what it means to be living in a respectful and open community, but also the health and wellness of our students."

Four hundred students in each class were invited to participate in the survey; 47 percent of those invited chose to participate, a response rate Collado appreciates.

"We were very pleased that over 700 students completed the survey, that this was something students wanted to share their input about," said Collado. "I take that as a good sign. Rather than having the data sit, we wanted to share it."

To present an extensive summary of the data and hear student feedback, President of the College Ronald D. Liebowitz and Collado will

host an open forum on issues related to alcohol use at the College at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, May 3 in the McCullough Social Space. Executive Director of Health and Counseling Services Gus Jordan, Assistant Professor of Psychology Matt Kimble and Associate Professor of Psychology Carlos Velez have analyzed the survey data and put together a slideshow, which Jordan will present at the forum. Student life staff and members of Public Safety will also participate, and Assistant Director of Custodial Services Linda Ross will present the most updated dorm damage data.

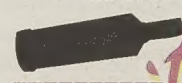
"I can't think of a better way to look at all of the data than to start early-on with student input," said Collado. "The President and I are not going into this meeting with some kind of agenda or solution in mind. We're both pretty concerned about the fact that no one institution has figured out the solution to alcohol use and abuse on college campuses ... this is for me personally a call to action because I don't think the administration can solve this problem alone. This cannot be a top-down approach."

Liebowitz expressed similar thoughts.

"It's good to have these conversations — we should probably have them more often," he said. "But the ultimate aim is to hear from students how we can approach what is obviously a challenging issue — the use of alcohol and the disruptive behavior resulting from it. We want to really look to the students for potential solutions ... I'm hoping students are going to be a lot smarter than we are about this."

Some students have already been charged with the task of considering alcohol use at the College. Resident Advisers (RAs) and First-Year Counselors (FYCs) receive training around issues of illegal and excessive alcohol use and play an active role in ensuring the safety of their peers. Some

SEE STUDENTS, PAGE 3



98.5% OF STUDENTS HAD AT LEAST ONE NEGATIVE EXPERIENCE DUE TO SOMEONE ELSE'S DRINKING.

86% OF STUDENTS TOOK CARE OF SOMEONE WHO DRANK TOO MUCH.

85.9% FOUND CANS, BOTTLES, OR LITTER AROUND THEIR RESIDENCE. 41.2% SAID 10+ TIMES

74.5% HAD THEIR SLEEP INTERRUPTED.

MCAB announces executive board

By Kathryn DeSutter
NEWS EDITOR

The Middlebury College Activities Board (MCAB) has appointed the executive board members for the 2011-2012 academic year.

Nadia Schreiber '12, who will serve as president of the Middlebury College Activities Board (MCAB) in the coming academic year, hopes to boost attendance for traditional events while simultaneously trying out new ideas.

"I hope to encourage the development of new and unique programming, so that we get away from doing the same events over and over again," wrote Schreiber in an email. "I think there is also an expectation that we do certain events — such as Fall Frenzy

and [the Homecoming formal] — and I would like to make attendance at these events better, and find out why maybe people haven't attended in the past."

Schreiber's goals include working to continue this year's trend of increased attendance at events, using new venues for events and revitalizing the Inter-Commons Council and encouraging the commons to collaborate on more programming.

Schreiber believes that her experience on both sides of the board will help create unity among MCAB executives.

"I think that having been both a committee chair and a commons chair gives me a unique perspective into the challenges of each position,"

SEE MCAB, PAGE 4

Grille and 51 Main continue to lose money

By Cedar Attanasio
STAFF WRITER

In the 2010 fiscal year, the Grille lost \$200,000, while 51 Main lost an additional \$90,000. Improvements in profitability, the opening of Crossroads Café and the continued needs of the College for social spaces are all informing the ongoing conversation over dining at the College.

According to Patrick Norton, treasurer and vice-president of the College, these losses were an improvement compared to previous years. He predicts similar or slightly decreased losses this year, though he emphasized that dining services should be profitable.

"In the long run, losses are unacceptable," he wrote in an email. "We are working to achieve at least break-

even."

Since its opening in 2008, losses at 51 Main have been offset by a donor, thus not affecting the College's finances. This support extends through next year, and may be renewed, said President of the College Ronald D. Liebowitz.

The student-run Crossroads Café, which started just last March, may set an example for the older dining services in terms of financial success.

"The directive was not to lose money," said Crossroads Manager David Dolifka '13. "In the end we can't lose money for the College. It's not our money to lose and I think we understand that."

SEE CAFÉ PAGE 2



Eleanor Horowitz and Andrew Podrygula, Photos Editors

MCAB BRINGS REPORTER, FORMER MILITARY OFFICIAL

Chief Washington Correspondent for the *New York Times* David Sanger (left) spoke Wednesday, April 20 and Former Admiral William Fallon (right) spoke Tuesday, April 26. Both addressed crowds in Mead Memorial Chapel.

this week



Voices of the Freedom to Marry Movement
The Vermont Folklife Center presents Tumblr audio files, pg 5.



Unpacking the Three Branches
Learn the difference between the SGA, MCAB and Community Council, pg 12-13.

Sepomana Mania
Check out our review of WRMC's annual spring show, pg 17.





beyond the bubble

by Bronwyn Oatley
Staff Columnist

With the world's attention focused on Libya, Syrian President Bashar Assad has increased the level of violence used by his military forces in dealing with anti-government protestors within his country. The Canadian newspaper the *Globe and Mail* reported on Tuesday that it is estimated that over 400 people have been killed since the government repression began.

The tension has further increased in ferocity in the past week, as the government has been unwilling to permit the protests occurring within its major cities. The most recent violent crackdown occurred over the past weekend in Damascus, where an estimated 120 people were killed.

According to the *Globe and Mail*, the protests increased in severity in mid-March, when two teenagers were arrested for expressing anti-government sentiments in the form of graffiti.

Keeping pace with the increased violence in the government oppression, protestors' initial calls for modest reforms have now been transformed into demands for the downfall of the president.

The president has warned in recent days that any further protesting or dissension would be considered sabotage.

In response to the increased severity of the situation unfolding in Syria, international heads of state have come together to try and find a unified voice in their condemnation.

In a joint press conference on Tuesday, Italian President Berlusconi and French President Sarkozy stated that, "Together we send a strong call to Damascus authorities to stop the violent repression of what are peaceful demonstrations and we ask all sides to act with moderation."

The United States has also increased its disapproval of the conduct of the Assad regime, but has stopped well short of committing itself to another intervention in an embroiled nation.

Such a sentiment seems to be the most prevalent across Europe as well. The *Globe and Mail* reported that European Union (EU) President Herman Van Rompuy has stated that the EU can "do little to help Syrians in their uprising against Mr. Assad." The EU president also noted that neither the Arab League nor the United Nations seem inclined to aid the Middle Eastern nation.

Such a position hardly seems surprising as coalition forces begin will begin their fifth week fighting against Libyan forces on Monday. While Allied analysts have released optimistic reports regarding the progress that the forces have achieved, many remain much more skeptical about what the intervention has accomplished.

Owing to the fact that the United States is now involved in three wars, and many European nations are involved in two or more, it seems highly illogical to predict yet another military intervention to aid rebel forces.

While the violence Syrian citizens are being subjected to may be as severe as the violence protestors experienced in Libya, anti-government forces will not receive the same support from the international community as rebels received in Libya.

The international will for such military aid has been significantly diminished, and as a result Syrian citizens will likely continue to experience severe military repression in the coming weeks.

Mula, Graf take Commons positions

By Jess Berry
STAFF WRITER

The fall of 2011 will usher in new faces for the Head of Brainerd Commons and the Head of Cook Commons.

Stefano Mula, assistant professor of Italian, will be taking over as Cook Commons Head for C.A. Dana Professor of Italian Patricia Zupan during her year-long sabbatical. Professor of German Roman Graf will be the new commons head for Brainerd, taking over for Robert Schine, Silberman professor of Jewish studies.

Zupan has served as head of Cook Commons since 2000. She will be taking a year off to work on her book-length study, "Dante's Image of Rome." She will be working both at the College and in Italy, specifically in Florence, Rome and Siena.

Zupan said her interest in being a commons head sprung from her work as a professor of Italian at the College.

"I became a commons head first because as an Italian professor, I am steeped in the living-

learning philosophy of the Italian School and the Middlebury Language Schools," said Zupan. "I am very familiar with the creation of environments that respond to a fully-dimensional development of students, and that intend to empower students to take responsibility for their living-learning communities."

Zupan also attributed her desire to be a commons head and her success as head of Cook Commons to the support of her family.

"Honestly, I became a commons head because my whole family was committed to the project," said Zupan. "My late husband, Franco Ciccone, and even my then-teenaged daughter Marisa were very enthusiastic about the possibility of our family being involved with the College in the building of intellectual and interpersonal community across the generations."

While Zupan is gone, Mula will continue to host many of the events she has sponsored over the past 11 years such as Cook community dinners in Atwater. Mula will also maintain close

relationships with members of Cook Commons, particularly with the Commons Residential Advisor (CRA) and Cook Commons Council.

Zupan is confident in Mula's ability to be a successful commons head.

"Professor Mula has been an active member of our commons for his whole career here, bringing both faculty and student centered intellectual and cultural programming to Cook Commons," said Zupan. "He understands the living-learning connections so important to the commons and the College."

Mula said that the commons system has interested him since he arrived at the College in 2002. He particularly appreciates the way the commons work in bringing together students and colleagues.

"The first year or second year that I was here, Ron [President of the College Ronald D. Liebowitz], who was the vice president by then or maybe provost, sent an email saying that my name had been mentioned by some students as a suggestion for somebody who could take on a commons," said Mula. "So it goes back to 2003 or 2004. It's been something that's been on my mind since then."

While Mula will only be substituting for a year, Brainerd Commons Head Robert Schine will be permanently leaving his position after five years of service.

He will be on academic leave through 2012, studying the function of Hebrew language in Jewish culture, working in Jerusalem and Berlin. Although Schine will return in 2012 to teach, he will not be returning to his position as Brainerd Commons head.

Instead, Professor of German Roman Graf will be taking over. Graf admitted that his opinions of the commons system have changed over time. He remembers when the College was first proposing the idea of a commons system.

"We wanted to create a bridge between the classrooms and the personal lives of the students that would enable them to carry what they learned in an academic setting into their personal lives as well as to include their personal experiences into an academic setting," said Graf. "The commons system seems to establish this connection. I believe in this connection and am excited to be able to contribute to it in this new role as commons head."

Among all of his goals, however, Graf said the most important is supporting his students.

"Foremost, I would like to start thinking about goals and planning for the next few years with the needs of the students in mind," said Graf. "I do not want to add to the already busy schedules of our students but integrate what they do academically with their preferred social outlets."

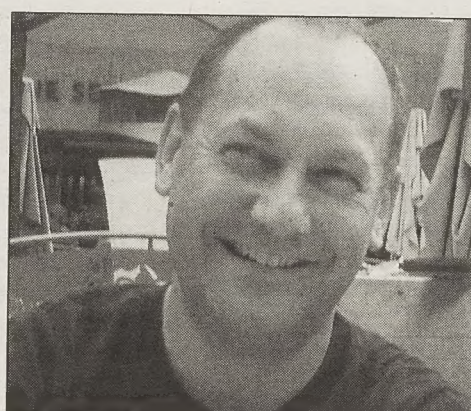
Graf said that he will continue the traditions of Schine, such as the informal tea gatherings at the Brainerd Commons house and events during senior week.

"Thanks to his [Schine's] creativity and initiative, I don't have to start from scratch," he said. "But I do have some ideas of my own."

Graf recognizes the power of his new position.

"As long as we are actively striving to improve ourselves, we cannot go wrong," he said. "The commons is an excellent setting to convert these thoughts into reality. That is what attracts me most to this new position."

With a smile, he added, "And of course the parties."



Assistant Professor of Italian Stefano Mula (left) will be the Head of Cook Commons, while Professor of German Roman Graf (right) will take on the role of Brainerd Commons Head.

Café on road to make profit

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Dolifka and Norton agree that it's too early to discuss Crossroads' profitability. However, Dolifka's earliest estimates show that student labor and food costs add up to only 75 percent of revenue. In other words, aside from costs outside of labor and food, they could potentially post a 25 percent profit.

"I guess that means on the surface that we're not losing money and it means that our model is ... sustainable," he said.

Possible profits from Crossroads Café would not return to the College, and could not offset losses at the Grille or 51 Main.

"We're not at the stage yet where we can talk about giving money away, [but] any money that we make will go to charities and student organizations," said Dolifka.

But Crossroads may even help the Grille by bringing more customers into the building. Dolifka sees this expanding in the future.

"We really want to have events here like a continuation of the socioeconomics at Middlebury discussion, or coffee houses like they have on Tuesday night," he said. "That's something that we haven't really been able to pursue heavily yet, because we need to make sure that the cash register is working and that the food is hot. But I would say, next semester, be on the lookout for a lot of things going on downstairs in the space."

David Cannistra, the College's general manager of retail operations, agrees that Crossroads is bringing business to the Grille.

"[Service cuts] have helped our bottom line, but I don't know if they've helped make this the center of the school. I'm trying to find out where the Grille fits in. I want to create an atmosphere ... and I think that Crossroads helps create that atmosphere," he said.

Both Cannistra and Dolifka agree that more concerts, fundraising and other social events should come to McCullough.

In November 2009, Liebowitz raised the issue of 51 Main's profitability on his blog, prompting a near-unanimous outcry of support in the online comments. He announced in January 2010 that 51 Main would remain open.

"The kind of programming that goes on at 51 Main differs from what is available on campus and in town," Liebowitz wrote in an email. If the College wants to create a truly diverse community, he added, the social outlets must be

equally diverse.

Day Williams '14.5 echoed Liebowitz's comments, emphasizing the value 51 Main adds to the College's social scene.

"We need places like 51 Main, because we don't have a city nearby. It's nice because it is off campus but its close. That is important," he said.

Liebowitz made a similar argument in favor of continuing to support the Grille.

"It would be hard to imagine the College without a place like the Grille," he wrote in an email. "Faculty and staff just can't go downtown and to eat, and so having a place on campus is very important."

The lack of profitability at these operations, though, are not a simple result of poor management. Liebowitz sees the current dining model and the auxiliary dining services' financial woes as linked.

"[The three retail operations] are at a competitive disadvantage because [they] operate fully outside the meal plan," he wrote. "[At most schools] students can use their meal plan payment [points] to eat at the equivalent of the Grille, 51 Main and the [Crossroads Café] instead of dining halls."

Liebowitz said that he plans to collect more student feedback on the meal plan issue.

"We need to follow up and see what students finding most important about our current plan and what they would like to see ... including not changing our present plan."



STUDENTS GO GREEN FOR EARTH DAY

Donny Dickinson '11 encourages athletes to wear green showlaces and pledge environmental responsibility at the Earth Day celebration on Saturday, April 23 in Atwater Dining Hall.

Eleanor Horowitz, Photos Editor

SGA Election Results

Last week's election failed to elect a Student Government Association (SGA) President and Student Chair Of the Community Council (SCOCC). As a result, there will be runoffs between Riley O'Rourke '12 and Dane Verret '12 for SGA President and Janet Rodrigues '12 and Kevin Broussard '12 for SCOCC. Neither candidate received the needed 50 percent of the votes needed to secure each position.

Runoffs will be held from noon Thursday (today) until noon on Friday (tomorrow).

The SGA Elections Council announced the runoff and senator election results in an email to students on Monday, April 25. The results are below:

Sophomore Senators:	Junior Senators:	Senior Senators:	Ross Senator:	Brainerd Senator:	Wonnacott Senator:
Nathan LaBarba	Kathryn Benson	Brittany Gendron	Andrea Torres	Christian Holmes	Lucas Acosta
Joanie Thompson	Fif Aganga	Steve Marino	Cook Senator:	Atwater Senator:	
			Michael Polebaum	Jackie Breckenridge	

Students reflect on various alcohol issues

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

commons held a Residential Life staff meeting for their RAs and FYCs to preview the survey results and give the administration preliminary feedback.

"We talked about how we have a weird role because we're supposed to be there for the kids and have this good open relationship with them, and once you ask an FYC to start sniffing around and catch them drinking it messes up the other half of our job," said Matt Yaggy '12, an FYC for Atwater Commons who previewed the survey results. "It's a really difficult thing to negotiate. The problem is students aren't supposed to drink, but we know they do, and we want to educate them, but we have to police them."

Yaggy felt the survey summary cast Residential Life staff members in a negative light by reporting their efforts to curb underage drinking and unsafe drinking as "ineffective."

"I agree for the most part FYCs are not effective, but that's not something that is our fault," said Yaggy. "To do it more effectively would ask us to cross a boundary we shouldn't cross, or wouldn't create the sort of atmosphere an FYC needs to have with their first-years. There's no way to stop [first-years] from drinking, especially in an environment where there are people who can drink and buy them alcohol. There's no easy solution."

Liebowitz stressed the importance of the forum in the face of such a complex issue as underage drinking.

"[Underage drinking] is going to happen; it's happening now," said Liebowitz. "The question is how to make it safer and more responsible and abide by the law. I'm all for education, but I'd love to hear from students what type of education might we consider?"

Matt Hedgpeth '12, the RA and president of Omega Alpha (Tavern), plays a frequent witness to the drinking scene on campus as the leader of a social house, and he believes most of the biggest issues involving alcohol come down to stress.

"I think a lot of people feel like they need to drink either to meet new people, to go to party environments, to go out and put themselves out there after constantly living under the pressure of deadlines and handing in quality work — just living up to your own standards and living up to the school's standards," said Hedgpeth. "Not that the bad things that can result from that alcohol use [in response to the pressure] are excusable, but at the same time I don't really know what other solutions there are ... The amount of work we have isn't really conducive to the kind of unstructured social time people are looking for here."

Liebowitz said he was "sympathetic" to the notion of stress-related drinking habits, and he called the issue a "fair question."

"It's easy to dismiss academic pressure as a component of this issue, but over the last five years I've come to believe that that's a contributor to some of this issue," said Liebowitz. "I don't know how to address that ... maybe students will."

Hedgpeth worries perceptions that the administration is "unwilling to take the steps to actually change things" will discourage students from coming to the open forum, or that students will not speak honestly at the forum because they think their drinking habits are "shameful." In general, however, he agrees with Collado and Liebowitz that an attempt at open discussion is necessary.

"I think it's easier for some people to not worry about the consequences of their actions as much, and not worry about what they do and how that has an effect on other people and their academic or social experience, but that's just because this isn't really talked about," said Hedgpeth. "I guess we should talk about it."

Brittany Gendron '12, an FYC in Ross Commons for the second year in a row, feels the forum is absolutely necessary, especially as a way of shifting perceptions of alcohol use on campus. Gendron describes herself as a "non-drinker," an identity she describes as frequently "difficult" or "uncomfortable" as a social student who is of age to drink. After seeing the preview presentation of the alcohol survey results, Gendron learned that almost a quarter of the respondents said they did not drink, or drank infrequently, but drinking culture is "much more noticeable."

"Sustaining a culture of perceived leniency through the policy focusing on health and safety makes people think that drinking is something everyone does," said Gendron. "I think it's a delicate line to toe. We want to be focused on the health and safety and leave people to have their privacy of course, but in this culture of leniency it makes it seem like it is expected that college students will drink, and some don't."

Gendron hopes that open conversation will help foster greater understanding between seemingly separate factions of the student body.

"I think people don't need to feel alienated on either side, drinking or non-drinking," said Gendron. "I think people just need to be understanding about everyone's preferences, and I think for the most part people are — but not always when they're drunk, which I think is the problem."

Liebowitz emphasized the large numbers of factors at play in formulating the College's

alcohol policy, including working within the law, being in a rural area with few off-campus opportunities to drink socially and dealing with the reasons he feels students might choose to drink: stress, pursuing social life, simply being 18 to 22 and being alone for the first time.

"All of these things could be dealt with in ways that are more effective than we do now, perhaps," said Liebowitz. "We're always learning."

His main hope for the forum next week is that students will show up, and that those who do will represent a broad range of opinions.

"I hope we get a mix [of perspectives on drinking]," said Liebowitz. "I hope people are willing to be civil to one another and to exchange ideas and share real issues that come up surrounding alcohol."

66.4% FOUND VOMIT IN OR AROUND THEIR RESIDENCE.

53.6% HAD STUDYING INTERRUPTED

39.8% HAD PERSONAL PROPERTY OR RESIDENCE DAMAGE

21.9% WERE MADE TO FEEL UNSAFE

20% HAD A CAMPUS EVENT INTERRUPTED

13.6% WERE PUSHED, HIT OR ASSAULTED

9% WERE HARASSED BASED ON PROTECTED CHARACTERISTICS (RACE, CLASS, SEXUAL ORIENTATION, RELIGION, NATIONALITY, ETC.)

8.9% WERE THREATENED WITH PHYSICAL VIOLENCE

8.9% TOOK SOMEONE FOR EMERGENCY CARE

7.1% WERE TAKEN ADVANTAGE OF SEXUALLY

7% THOUGHT OF TRANSFERRING DUE TO THE ALCOHOL USE OF OTHERS

3.3% WERE SEXUALLY ASSAULTED

400 STUDENTS PER CLASS WERE INVITED TO PARTICIPATE. 766 (47%) STUDENTS COMPLETED THE SURVEY REPRESENTING JUST UNDER 1/3 OF THE STUDENT BODY.

PERCENT OF RESPONDENTS WHO WERE SENIORS | SOPHOMORES | JUNIORS | FIRST-YEARS

32.1% 24.7% 22.8% 20.4%

MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD! ATTEND THE ALL-CAMPUS FORUM AT 7 P.M. ON TUESDAY, MAY 3 IN MCCULLOUGH.

college shorts

by Eliza Wallace, Staff Writer

Harry Potter star Emma Watson changes schools

Emma Watson, the 21-year-old actress who stars as Hermione Granger in the Harry Potter movie series, is searching for a new academic venue; she will be transferring from Brown University, which she has attended for two years, to a new and undisclosed school.

Spokespeople for the star have discredited rumors that her departure was due to teasing and harassment by her classmates, especially teasing stemming from the themes of the Harry Potter series. Watson has taken time during school to work on her movie career and now reportedly wishes to follow a new academic track.

— The Huffington Post

Netflix technology recommends courses

Based on the "smart systems" developed by Netflix and iTunes for finding movies or songs based on earlier preferences and ratings, new programs that will help students find courses in a similar associative manner have been adopted by Austin Peay State University and The University of Colorado in Boulder for a trial run.

Supporters say that the comprehensive decision engine would take grades, course histories, major and interests into account to guide students in choosing their next semester schedule and ultimately make an academic path that would lead to higher performance and lower dropout rates. Others believe that these robot recommendations are not as good as interface with a human in the form of an academic adviser.

Ian Ayres, a professor at Yale Law School and author of a book on quantitative analysis, believes that a course-recommendation tool is helpful in correcting human error. Academics estimate that the ubiquity of these new systems will be determined by feedback from students in combination with numerical measures of success.

— The Chronicle of Higher Ed

Universities face study abroad dilemma

Many U.S. colleges with students studying abroad in Egypt, other volatile Middle Eastern countries and Japan had to evacuate their students this semester. It seems that despite dangerous situations and even because of them, students want to go abroad to these places, wanting to have an intensely singular and authentic learning experience.

Peggy Blumenthal at the Institute of International Education found that enrollment in study abroad in the Middle East increased by 127 percent from 2002 to 2006. All colleges with partner programs in foreign nations keep a close eye on risk, and do their best to both protect their students and allow them to have a full study abroad education.

Plans for the fall are still tenuous in many cases with countries in turmoil. Safety measures will be taken and insured before students are approved to study in dangerous zones.

— The New York Times

public safety log

April 19 - 25, 2011

DATE	TIME	INCIDENT	CATEGORY	LOCATION	DISPOSITION
04/19/11	11:18 p.m.	Theft	Road Signs	Kappa Delta Rho	Referred to DOC
4/20/11	1:36 p.m.	Fire Alarm Report	General Cooking	Porter House	Referred to Facilities Services
4/20/11	12:24 a.m.	Attempted Theft	Food products	Ross Commons Dining	Referred to Commons Dean
4/21/11	1:15 p.m.	Misc. Incident	Trespassing	Davis Family Library	Referred to Commons Dean
4/22/11	1:59 p.m.	Theft	Unknown	Mahaney Center for the Arts	No Suspects
4/22/11	2:15 a.m.	Agency Assist MPD	Underage Student	Off Campus	Referred to Commons Dean
4/22/11	3:15 p.m.	Theft	Property from vehicle	D Lot	Referred to Commons Dean
4/22/11	11:00 p.m.	Disturbance	Noise	Atwater B	Referred to Commons Dean
4/22/11	10:43 p.m.	Attempted Burglary	Property damage	Homer Harris	Referred to Commons Dean
4/23/11	2:38 a.m.	Vandalism	Street light	Sunderland Language Center	Referred to Facilities Services
4/23/11	11:25 p.m.	Collision	Bike hit parked vehicle	Hillcrest Road	Referred to Commons Dean
4/24/11	1:40 a.m.	Misc. Incident	Hole dug	Peary	Referred to Commons Dean

The Department of Public Safety reported giving 11 alcohol citations between April 19 and 25, 2011.

Committee announces senior events

By Elizabeth Fouhey
STAFF WRITER

After months of planning, the Senior Committee finalized the events for Senior Week. Beginning on Tuesday, May 17 and ending with Commencement on Sunday, May 22, Senior Week is traditionally the capstone event for graduating seniors.

The week will begin with the Senior Olympics on Tuesday afternoon.

"[Senior Olympics] will be like a carnival. It will have a fun atmosphere," said Ashley Cheung '11, co-chair of the Senior Committee.

On Wednesday, there will be a boat cruise on Lake Champlain, one of the newer traditions of Senior Week. Thursday will be Dunmore Day, when seniors have the chance to go and spend the day lounging at Lake Dunmore with their peers.

Friday will begin with a mimosa breakfast at Atwater dining hall, and will conclude with the "Last Chance Dance" in McCullough Social Space that night.

The theme of the dance is "Hello my name is..." Seniors will wear nametags for a last chance to meet their fellow classmates.

Saturday will feature the Senior Formal on Battell Beach. After the formal, the tradition is that the entire senior class spends the

night together at Alumni Stadium, watching the sun rise together Sunday morning.

The Senior Committee has been charged with planning all of the senior events, including the 200 and 100 Days parties since the beginning of the year.

"It has been a great experience getting to know Midd better," Cheung said. However, she added, "It has been a unique challenge for us [this year] because the class is larger than average. Since we [recognized

Senior Week is a culmination of the best four years of your life.

— Lucas Alvarez '11

the size] problem earlier in the year, we've been able to deal with it since then."

After months of planning, the Senior Committee is excited about how the events will turn out.

Lucas Alvarez '11, co-chair of the Senior Committee said, "I am looking forward ... most to the Senior Formal because it is our last night. Overall, senior week is a culmination of the best four years of your life. It's a celebration!"

"Senior Week will be a place to solidify relationships and enjoy your classmates' company once more before graduation," he added.

The senior class is also excited for the upcoming events.

"I am really impressed with the wide range of activities the Senior Committee has planned for Senior Week," said Maria Perille '11. "I think all of the events will be fantastic, but I'm not going to lie — I'm

pretty excited about the Mimosa Reception in Atwater."

"I also cannot wait to celebrate with all of my peers post-thesis stress but pre-graduation emotional breakdown. It's going to be great," she

added enthusiastically.

The graduating seniors' excitement is an important part of the planning process for Senior Week.

"We want to thank the senior class for their support. Without the support, our jobs would be a lot harder," said Alvarez and Cheung.

Tickets for the Wednesday evening Sunset Cruise will go on sale soon at go/seniorcruise.

MCAB board excited for 2011-2012

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

wrote Scribe in an email. "I hope that I can both make the commons chairs feel that they serve more of a purpose in the larger MCAB community, as well as ensure that the rest of the Execs know that commons programming is equally important."

The MCAB executive board is comprised of the chairs of the five MCAB committees: concerts committee, marketing committee, social committee, speakers committee and traditions committee. Chairs from each residential commons also hold voting power on the executive board. The executive board members — in addition to individual responsibilities pertaining to their own committees or commons — vote on any MCAB event that requires \$10,000 or more in funding.

Applicants for the executive board can come from any student on campus, although Perille explained that preference is given to those with experience on the MCAB commit-

tees. The board is chosen by a selection committee comprised of current board members who will not be returning the following year, Associate Dean of Students Doug Adams and David Kloepper technical coordinator for the Center for Campus Activities and Leadership (CCAL).

Maria Perille '11, current MCAB president, believes that the next board's strength comes from its diversity of perspectives.

"We had an emphasis during the selection committee interviews for the executive board on mixing things up," said Perille. [For example,] not just taking people on concert committee to be concert committee chairs. Although people usually feel that it's logical to just apply to the committee they're already on, we actually encourage movement between the committees because that's how good ideas get spread and [it creates] more collaboration between the committees."

Selection for commons chairs is determined individually by each commons.

Students who serve on MCAB committees, known as the General Board, can submit applications at the beginning of the academic year and in February. All students are eligible to apply. Each committee is comprised of approximately 10 students.

Perille hopes that next year's executive board will build off of the successes from this

year.

"We had an emphasis on trying new things this year. Concerts [committee] came up with the Bunker series and brought different types of acts, like Dean and Britta," said Perille. "Even marketing [committee] tried new things by painting on dining hall windows. There was an emphasis on trying new things, taking risks and hoping it would pay off, and I think it has."

Perille explained how MCAB expanded its programming timeframe by hosting dinners at Atwater Dining Hall and Sunday evening Zumba sessions.

"We usually focus on programming Thursday through Saturday, but it's also nice to have events during the week," said Perille.

Perille hopes that MCAB will continue to strengthen its ties to the Student Government Association (SGA). Current SGA President Riley O'Rourke '12 presently sits on the speakers committee, but Perille hopes MCAB can restate a more permanent connection.

MCAB has traditionally had a treasurer who is appointed by the head of the SGA Finance Committee.

A treasurer, according to Perille, "would make sure there's communication between SGA and MCAB, so they [the SGA] know how we're using our budget."

Perille explained how this year's board

campusnews

seniorweekschedule

Tuesday, May 17

3-5 p.m. — Senior Olympics
Battell Beach
9:30-11:30 p.m. — Bonfire
Acoustic music and open mic
Ross Fire Pit

Wednesday, May 18

Sunset Cruise on Lake Champlain
Buses depart ADK @ 4:45 p.m.
*Seniors only

Thursday, May 19

Dunmore Day
11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. — Athletic
Senior Awards
Mead Memorial Chapel
6 p.m. — President's Senior BBQ
Proctor Terrace

Friday, May 20

10 a.m. - 12 p.m. — Mimosa Reception
Atwater Dining Hall
1 p.m. - 2 p.m. — Class Photo
Mead Memorial Chapel lawn
11:59 p.m. - 2 a.m. — Last Chance
Dance, "Hello, My Name Is ..."
McCullough

Saturday, May 21

10 p.m. - 2 a.m. — Senior Tent
Formal, Battell Beach

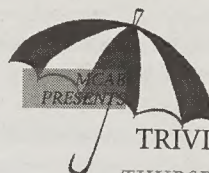
Sunday, May 22

10 a.m. — Graduation Ceremony

benefitted from feedback provided by the all-student survey released last fall.

"The results were a little bit surprising to us because [many people] said that the music they prefer is alternative music. It's always difficult appealing to what kind of music people want, and with our small, medium and large-scale shows we've been trying to appeal to everyone."

"We learned that people really value the small events — like MAD [Music and Drinks] every Thursday and Trivia night," added Perille.



TRIVIA NIGHT

THURSDAY 9 - 11PM

AT THE GRILL // SNACKS & DRINK

SPECIALS FOR ALL AGES // 21+

BRING 2 FORM OF ID.

FFF: THE DILEMMA

FRIDAY AT 7 AND 10 // DANA AUDITORIUM

PALMS OUT SOUNDS DJS

SATURDAY // 10:30PM - 2AM
COLTRANE LOUNGE



2011-2012 executive board

President:

Nadia Schreiber '12

Concerts Committee Co-Chairs:

Dan Crepps '12 and Tyler Norris '12

Marketing Committee Co-Chairs:

Kathryn Benson '13 and Derek Matus '12

Social Committee Co-Chairs:

Annie Boegert '12 and Megan McGeehan '12

Speakers Committee Co-Chairs:

Caitlin Ludlow '13 (Fall) and Genevieve Dukes '13 (Spring)

Traditions Committee Chair:

Martina Szabo '12

Community Council update

by Hannah Bristol, Staff Writer

Council discusses role of orientation in Feb integration

After a one-meeting hiatus for Passover, Community Council reconvened on April 25. Associate Director of Campus Activities and Director of Orientation JJ Boggs and International Student and Scholar Adviser Kaye-Lani Laughna joined the council to seek input on orientation.

After this year's fall orientation, Boggs and Laughna talked with small groups of first-years about how to make orientation better. They also sent all first-years a survey and gathered feedback from other members of the Middlebury community who were involved in orientation, such as First-Year Counselors (FYCs) and Commons Residential Advisers (CRAs).

They hoped to gain additional insight from Community Council on orientation, particularly relating to diversity and community.

A wide variety of topics were discussed, from the pre-arrival reading and discussion groups to Midd Uncensored, a community building exercise that began during Feb orientation and has recently been added to fall orientation.

"I think that we need to take advantage of the Orientation week to ensure that these values of respect and unity are well-established, because this time will set the tone for the students' next four years," said Secretary of Community Council Rachel Sider '14. "I hope that this year's Orientation program can better set this tone, while still maintaining the fun and carefree atmosphere I experienced."

They also discussed Feb orientation and particularly Feb integration into the community.

"We're kinda thrown into the mix as one pack, which can sometimes make integration hard," said Community Council member Zach Hitchcock '13.5. "I think by far the best way Febs could become better integrated with Regs is by surrounding them with other students their age."

The council discussed Feb housing, as Febs are generally placed wherever there is available housing. Unlike the first-years who arrive in September, Febs do not necessarily live near other first-years or near people in their first-year semi-

nar.

"The Feb orientation as a whole does a really good job of making you feel welcome and at home given the constraints of the situation," said Hitchcock. "There is a lot of Feb spirit that gets driven into you during that time that's really crucial to shaping your college identity and helping you feel like you 'belong.' But I think that there needs to be more focus on community within the events in Feb orientation."

"I think that the feedback Community Council provided will specifically better create the understanding of community respect that the we as a council seek to improve," said Sider.

"I feel like members of Community Council reinforced our idea that small group experiences are critical during orientation and that we should be offering orientation extension activities in the commons throughout the fall and especially during spring after the new Febs arrive," said Boggs.

The final Community Council meeting of the year will take place on Monday, May 2.

Middlebury resident crafts innovative GLBTQ project

DEVIN MACDONALD, STAFF WRITER

April 7 marked the second anniversary of the passing of the Marriage Equity Act that legalized same-sex marriage in Vermont. The group that spearheaded the movement, Vermont Freedom to Marry, continues to fight for universal equality today. Madeleine Winterfalcon, assistant in academic administration, has worked for the organization for several years and after the legislation was passed, she sought to preserve the stories and voices of the movement. She recorded the stories of local people, each of whom were connected to Vermont Freedom to Marry's mission. These tales are now available to the public, as Winterfalcon has partnered with the Vermont Folklife Center, located on Main Street, to craft her project, "Voices of the Vermont Freedom to Marry Movement."

Winterfalcon has worked at the College since 2007. She enjoys oral history and believes that recording first-hand stories is priceless.

"It's so important that the stories are preserved," she said. "Who we are, where we're from and where we're going are all in those stories."

When she moved to Vermont and got involved in the Freedom to Marry Movement, she knew that "all the stories and voices shouldn't be lost."

"They were amazing, exciting and needed to be recorded," she said.

Winterfalcon began recording these stories in July 2009 and completed her interviews by the end of the summer. It took another full year to edit the work.

"You just don't know how these things are going to affect your environment," she said. "It's not limited and I don't feel total ownership of the project."

Although the project was her idea, she feels it does not belong to her. She recorded the stories so other people could listen to them and appreciate their rich histories.

"The widest possible dispersal of this project is great," she said. "So often people say, 'I don't know anybody gay,' but once you hear someone's story in their own voice it breaks all that down."

She hopes people will begin to relate on a personal level to the people she interviewed.

"Theory is one thing, but practice makes it break down," she said.

Judy Olinick, the Russian/German department coordinator, was one of the individuals to speak with Winterfalcon, and she is included in the project. She and her husband, Michael, participated in the interview because they have been involved in the Freedom to Marry Movement since it began. Olinick, who has lived in the town since 1970, was excited to help Winterfalcon.

"I think documenting the stories orally is very important so that in the future not only the details of what happened will be clear, but also the thinking, motivation and hopes of everyone involved in the equality effort," said Olinick.

Winterfalcon was careful to get stories from a wide range of people, including "the couples themselves, their families and straight allies."

"It's important to realize that there are many different perspectives on the topic of marriage equality," said Olinick.

For her, the passage of the Marriage Equality Act defined a movement towards equality and she believes the legislation "set the process in motion in a direction that cannot be stopped."

Winterfalcon's project is available online, thanks to the help of the Folklife Center. Winterfalcon contacted Andy Kolovos, the archivist at the center, and they organized a plan to best execute her project. Her five-minute interview clips have been edited and starting on April 7 and running until July 7, each Thursday, one of her 15 clips is posted on the center's tumblr.com account for the public to access. The audio segments were compiled from 17 interviews.

"It seemed like an important thing not to just have on the server, but to get it out somehow," said Kolovos.

Greg Sharrow, the director of education at the center, is also in-

vested in both Winterfalcon's project and the movement.

"I'm wildly enthusiastic about her project. The legislation is important but it's also incredibly important to have context, to hear from people of how it plays out in their lives and how it has meaning and significance for people," he said.

This project also fits the center's general mission.

"People tend to associate us with history," said Sharrow. "We're a cultural research organization. We're interested in helping communities achieve cultural goals and increase public awareness and understanding."

Winterfalcon's work will be archived at the center.

"We are now framing our work around a new concept: cultural sustainability. It's a developing idea," said Kolovos.

Caroline Grego '11 is a geography major who works with both Kolovos and Sharrow. She studies Franco-American and Quebecois songbooks, but is passionate about what the folklife center does for the state.

"Student on campus aren't aware enough of all the resources available on Vermont history," she said. "The folklife center has real interviews, primary source first-hand accounts."

Although the center documents many recordings, like Winterfalcon's, it feels honored to have Winterfalcon's work in particular.

"She is offering us the opportunity to know this experience," said Sharrow.

The hope is that through its easy access online, many people will come to know and study her work.

Sheryl Rapée-Adams of Rutland, Vt. is currently a volunteer for the Vermont Freedom to Marry Movement, where she began working in 2007.

"My husband and I read some articles in the newspaper about the fact that gay and lesbian couples who were committed to each other did not have the same rights to protect their families," she said.

This inspired Rapée-Adams to write a letter to the editor, which then prompted the Freedom to Marry organization to offer her a position as a volunteer. She was the deputy field director when the 2009 legislation was passed.

Rapée-Adams knows Winterfalcon, as they have worked together in the past.

"I am very proud of Madeleine's work," she said. "She was a fantastic Vermont Freedom to Marry volunteer. She was part of us, and I'm very glad Madeleine is bringing her expertise in oral history to continue Vermont's journey to marriage equality."

Currently, the Freedom to Marry Movement works at a federal level, but it also provides advice to individual couples.

"The most frequent phone calls and emails I get are couples and individuals who want to know what they need to do to get married and other legal pieces around marriage and family," said Rapée-Adams.

The Freedom to Marry Movement knows it still has a lot of work ahead.

"There is always something to work out," said Winterfalcon. "I don't see everything being solved in my lifetime."

Winterfalcon said that there is still a ways to go until there is universal equality, but she and others involved in the movement are hopeful that equality will catch on.

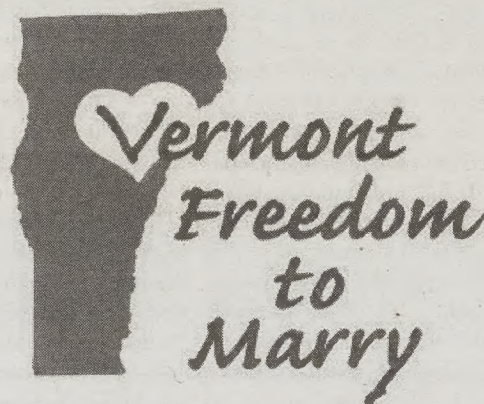
"It would be terrific if we could get young kids listening and learning from it," said Winterfalcon. "Being open helps, and small steps help a lot."

She believes the best way to understand is to listen.

"If you have friends, parents, grandparents; everyone has stories," she said, "Get those stories down. Real people's lives are the true history of our culture."

"So often people say, 'I don't know anybody gay,' but once you hear someone's story in their own voice it breaks all that down."

— MADELEINE WINTERFALCON



4/7/2009

PASSAGE OF THE
MARRIAGE EQUITY
ACT THAT LEGALIZED
SAME-SEX MARRIAGE
IN VERMONT

15

WEEKS OF AUDIO
CLIPS POSTED TO THE
FOLKLIFE CENTER'S
TUMBLR ACCOUNT

17

INTERVIEWS ARE
INCLUDED IN THE
CLIPS

2

MONTHS OF
INTERVIEWS FROM
JULY TO AUGUST 2009

1

YEAR OF EDITING THE
CLIPS

TO HEAR
WINTERFALCON'S AUDIO
CLIPS, VISIT THE VERMONT
FOLKLIFE CENTER'S
TUMBLR ACCOUNT AT:
[HTTP://VTFOLKLIFE.TUMBLR.COM/TAGGED/VOICES_OF_THE_VERMONT_FREEDOM_TO_MARRY_MOVEMENT](http://VTFOLKLIFE.TUMBLR.COM/TAGGED/VOICES_OF_THE_VERMONT_FREEDOM_TO_MARRY_MOVEMENT)

FOR MORE INFORMATION
ON WAYS TO GET
INVOLVED WITH THE
GLBTQ COMMUNITY, VISIT
THE VERMONT FREEDOM
TO MARRY MOVEMENT'S
WEBSITE AT:
[HTTP://WWW.VTFREETOMARRY.ORG/INDEX.HTML](http://WWW.VTFREETOMARRY.ORG/INDEX.HTML)

SOURCE: MADELEINE WINTERFALCON



Stop, Drop and Roll

Richard Cole, chief of the Middlebury Fire Department, has lived in the town for nearly his entire life, page 6.

Annual meeting puts local food first

ACoRN teamed up with Lincoln Peak Vineyard for an interactive, entertaining annual meeting, page 7.





by Hillary Chutter-Ames

A class visit to the statehouse in Montpelier last Thursday brought back a surge of memories — pages in green blazers darted up and down stairs, delivering messages. A large troupe of schoolchildren filed through the halls, meeting with the governor and legislators. A typical day at the Vermont state capital has changed little from six years ago, when I served as a legislative page.

Middlebury's newly elected representative to the Vermont House, Paul Ralston, spoke with our group about his experience as a rookie legislator and his hopes for the session. As the founder of Vermont Coffee Company, he touted his direct experience creating jobs in the state. Ralston acknowledged that there is a steep learning curve as a freshman legislator, but he was positive about the possibilities for personal growth.

The visit included a short meeting with newly elected Governor Peter Shumlin. I winced at a reference to Wall Street taking jobs from Main Street, but Shumlin flaunts a folksy appeal. His skills as a politician are impressive, although I had hoped for a substantive answer to my question about making farmland more accessible to young farmers. The governor listed renaissance in agriculture, connectivity and health care as his key priorities for this legislative session. Shumlin spoke of the need for Vermont to market its agricultural products in Boston and New York. He promised cell phone coverage and broadband access to all Vermonters by 2013 and has introduced an innovative single payer health plan. I support his work with the legislature, especially his new health care system. Both he and Speaker Shap Smith spoke passionately about the need for health care to follow the individual, instead of being delivered by employers.

Smith, the Speaker of the House since 2009, reaffirmed that the legislature would deal with little else this spring. He came across as genuine, and gave thoughtful answers to questions. When asked how he thought Vermont could better attract young people to the state, Smith said that Vermont is not a place that a young person can "land" in and that we have to create opportunities to allow us to live and work here.

The Vermont legislature runs from January to April and is often extended into May to finish off key legislative priorities. Vermont legislators, in contrast to increasingly professionalized legislatures around the country, hold a primary job. This aspect does limit the profile of possible legislators, as they must have the financial security and job flexibility to leave work for four months out of the year. As Ralston said on April 21, being a legislator in Vermont ends up costing money.

Vermont eighth-graders can apply to serve as legislative pages. I served for part of the session, from February into March, attending school on Mondays and staying in Montpelier for the rest of the week. I got my first real paycheck and a sense of how politics in a small state work.

Pages deliver messages, notes and bills around the statehouse and inside the House and Senate when they are in session. One representative would call us to her desk to take a note and give us candy instead — she would still get my vote. Vermont's capitol building is small, and despite the fact that I have not grown an inch since eighth grade, it felt much smaller on my recent visit. Many legislators have moved on, especially those who held leadership positions, but I still saw some familiar faces. When I come back in another six years, I expect to find new pages running around in green blazers and another school group watching politics in action.

Hillary Chutter-Ames '13 is from South Hero, Vt.

Candy haven satisfies local sweet tooth

By Hannah Bristol
STAFF WRITER

Upon entering Middlebury Sweets in East Middlebury, one immediately notices the colors — from the bright yellow, red and purple walls to the gumball displays on the tables. The shelves are lined with Pez dispensers, M&M paraphernalia and themed monopoly boards, which Blanca Jenne, who owns the store with her husband, Brad Jenne, has been collecting for the last 13 years.

The store first started in 2004 as a scrapbooking store with a small candy section called Scrapbook & Rubber Stamp Paradise. In 2007, it became a candy store named Sweet Surprises Down Candy Lane. The Jennes changed the name to Middlebury Sweets in 2010, and they have since been operating a successful business, spreading sugary goodness to all customers.

"Because of the recession, we've become more of a candy store than a scrapbooking store, but we keep the scrapbooking supplies for our regular customers," said Blanca.

Middlebury Sweets, located at 12 Ossie Rd., just five miles South of campus, is truly a family venture, as is evident from the Jennes' daughter and her grandmother playing behind the counter. The family chose to open a candy store mostly "because it's fun," said Blanca. The store's playful ambiance exudes this love for fun and candy.

Prior to owning the candy store, Blanca owned a gift basket business and made candy buffets for weddings, and this experience has given her a flair for tasteful and eye-catching displays. Currently, Brad also runs a U-Haul and storage business on the store's property.

Recent renovations have made Middlebury Sweets the largest candy store in Vermont, and although not quite finished, the store boasts an impressive collection of options, from the Haribo gummies to dispensers of jellybeans to quarter pound chocolate turtles, which Blanca cites as a best seller. Her personal favorite, however, is the almond butter crunch.

Blanca recently began making her own chocolate, starting with chocolate bunnies for Easter. She attended seminars to learn how to

make and mold the chocolate, and now has designs ranging from the classic bunny to bunnies riding on motorcycles made of white, milk and dark chocolate.

Starting this summer, the Jennes also plan to start selling Wilcox ice cream.

"The ice cream is a response to requests from people in East Middlebury," said Blanca. "There aren't many places to buy hard ice cream nearby."

If the ice cream business goes well this summer, they will install a serving window in the front.

Middlebury Sweets offers free delivery to the Middlebury campus on orders of \$10 or more. The Jennes also cater fundraisers and other events with candy buffets.

Orders can be placed at the website, <http://www.middleburysweets.com>. It is open Monday and Wednesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and on Sunday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.



Hannah Bristol

Owner Blanca Jenne offers a variety of candies for all customers.

one in 8,700 where the personalities of middlebury proper are celebrated

By Joanna Lyons
LOCAL NEWS EDITOR

Though he did not know it at the time, Richard Cole's decision to join a scout group as a freshman at Middlebury Union High School (MUHS) would have meaningful implications long after his days as a student. His involvement in the organization, which worked with the town's fire department, eventually led him to a career in firefighting. Chief of the Middlebury Fire Department for the past 14 years, Cole remains fully committed to the community.

"I never had any thoughts of being chief," said Cole, who has 36 years of experience as a fire fighter.

When the fire departments of East Middlebury and Middlebury merged and the chief at that time retired, Cole was persuaded by others to take the job himself.

"I have not regretted it," he said. "I have actually enjoyed it."

After graduating from MUHS in 1963, Cole left the area to pursue his interest in photography. He attended Germain School of Photography in New York City for a year before working for a photographer in Rutland for an additional two years. He decided to return to his hometown to work at his family's business, Cole's Flowers and Frames, which his grandfather started in 1937. It was then that Cole became adviser of the same scout group to which he belonged in high school. From this position, his fate was essentially sealed: he became a member of the department, receiving his training at the Middlebury Fire Station.

"I think the fire service in general tends to be a family," said Cole. "There are times when your life depends on the other guy, so you become pretty close."

Cole knows and trusts each of his fellow members, some of whom have been working nearly as long as he has.

"If any member ever needs help there is always a member there that is willing to give them a hand," he said.

As all who work at the fire department are volunteers who are paid on call, many hold other jobs. For years, Cole worked for his father at Cole's Flowers and Frames, a business he eventually took over and ran himself. Though he closed it five years ago, it only took a month for his daughter to re-open the store, which is still in business today. Currently, Cole works for a mail-order pharmacy, though he is plan-

ning to retire in three weeks so he can spend more time with his family. He is looking forward to driving across the country to visit his son, a firefighter who works with a paramedic in the state of Washington.

"Usually we fly, but we have always said we would like to drive it," said Cole, who is planning a five-week driving adventure so he has "enough time to see some sights." He plans to drive out west along a southern route, and return to Vermont on a northern path.

Though excited for more free time, Cole remains dedicated to his work at the fire department, and he intends to devote more hours to the station and the administrative aspects of his job. His retirement from position of fire chief is "probably not too long down the road," but for now Cole is more than content to continue his work in Middlebury — despite the harsh climate.

"Winters, as you get older, they get longer," he said. "I think of other places, but I still do not see myself going anywhere else."

As fire chief, Cole has been called to a vast array of scenes. Though volunteers may not fight fires often, they respond to calls related to faulty smoke detectors or carbon monoxide alarms. They also deal with "car accidents, fuel spills from automobiles or home heating systems." Just last week, Cole's team responded to a call about high winds that left live wires down on Rte. 116. On average, the department receives three calls per week.

"We get quite involved in the community," said Cole, whose most memorable call resulted in a three-day, around-the-clock effort to clean up gasoline that spilled out of 11 cars on a train passing through Middlebury. His team also had to put out a small fire that started after the crash.

"Fortunately, [the train] was going slow and they rolled over slowly," said Cole. "That was a big challenge and a very time-consuming event."

His decades of experience in the field of firefighting prove a strong foundation for his leadership in the department. The chief is always up for any task, as his favorite part of his job is directing a scene.

"I find it a challenge to determine what needs to be done to get the job done," he said. "Each one is different."

In addition, Cole prides himself on maintaining a strong connection to the College. He enjoys seeing interaction between student volunteers and older members of the department, and is also confident that his team works well with authorities on campus.

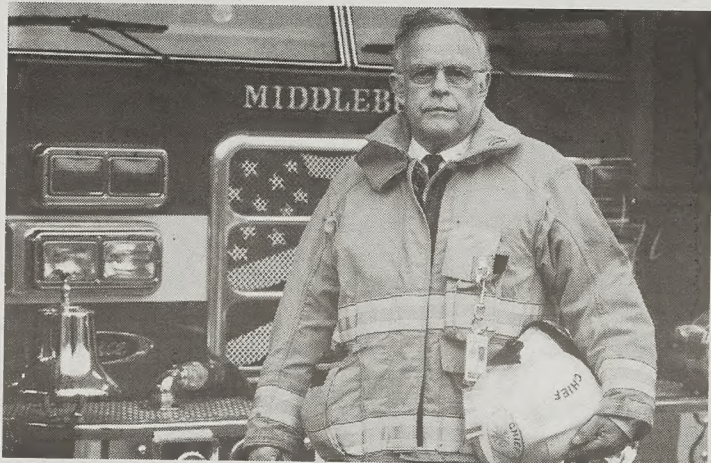
"Our working relationship with the College is really good, and it has improved tremendously over the last 10 years," said Cole. "If we have to go up there for some kind of a call, they are always extremely cooperative and willing to work with us to get the job done."

Throughout his years living in Middlebury, Cole has seen the town change in numerous ways. Growing up, he could have bought anything he needed on Main St., as there were then two grocery stores. With the expansion of services farther from downtown Middlebury, such a convenience no longer exists, yet Cole has liked seeing the town develop in new ways.

"The town has changed a lot, but I guess I want to look at changes as good," he said.

There is little doubt in Cole's mind that Middlebury is the place for him.

"It has been a good sized town to fill this role and I have enjoyed it a lot," he said.



Andrew Podrygula, Photos Editor

Chief Richard Cole thrives off of the challenge of directing a scene.

ACoRN meeting addresses future plans

By Charlotte Gardiner
LOCAL NEWS EDITOR

Over 100 people gathered from across the county to learn about plans for the upcoming year at the Addison County Relocalization Network's (ACoRN) annual meeting on April 14. Lincoln Peak Vineyard, located at 142 River Road in New Haven, Vt., hosted the event. Ben Hewitt, author of *The Town that Food Saved*, spoke about the local food system in Hardwick, Vt., the main focus of his book. Chris Granstrom, owner of Lincoln Peak Vineyard, and Jonathan Corcoran, president and co-founder of ACoRN, were both pleased with the evening.

"We had never done a party as the annual meeting," said Corcoran, who noted that only 15 people showed up to the discussions in the past, and there was neither advertising nor a speaker invited before this year. "It was our first big splash at a really great venue that spoke to the local food movement. People felt very at home; it was a lot of fun." Granstrom felt the same.

"ACoRN is a great organization. We [Lincoln Peak Vineyard] really believe in the mission and we wanted to do whatever we could to help them out," he said. "We are always looking for ways to get people who haven't been here out to our place."

Corcoran cited five innovations ACoRN has for the coming 2011-2012 year. The first, he said, is the "development of an online market platform to facilitate online market growth."

Annie Harlow, marketing consultant for ACoRN, is spearheading the project. The main goal, said Corcoran, is to "complement the virtual side with the face to face relationships." He believes his organization fosters connectivity, and he wants growers and buyers to become familiar with one another's businesses and farms.

Corcoran's desire to bring these groups together led ACoRN to hold its first matchmaker event, an informal conversation between growers and buyers, on March 30 at the College. All participants benefited from the meeting, which was the first regional event of its kind in the state. In the past, only buyers from out of state were invited to meet Vermont growers, but ACoRN's initiative tied buyers and growers from Addison County together.



Over 100 people met at Lincoln Peak Vineyard's for ACoRN's annual meeting. The organization planned a matchmaker event in March.

"It was a tremendous success," said Corcoran, who believes when a grower and/or buyer walk away from such an event with two to three new business leads, the day has proved successful. "To have a geographic area defined for this event was very effective."

Matthew Biette, director of dining services at the College and member of ACoRN's advisory board on "local produce/production/sales/usage," voluntarily hosted the discussion in the Proctor dining hall, and will do so again for the next meeting in October.

"The matchmaker event helps everyone in the food continuum," said Biette in an email. "It opens up markets, helps others realize a market and connects growers with buyers — kind of a one-stop shop."

Corcoran, too, is excited about the opportunities that arise for both buyers and growers. Many individuals could not attend the meeting in March, so there was much interest to have another matchmaker event in the fall.

"It's really all about the conversations that happen. People who don't know each other meet each other," he said. "Those connections are what we [ACoRN] are all about. You would be surprised at how many people don't know each other because they run in their own circles."

Biette agreed and said, "This is an extremely efficient way to use people's time as growers and buyers are in the same room. The competition is lessened as it is more of a level playing field or a 'neutral territory.'"

At the vineyard, the organization also announced it would begin fundraising to hire a full-time coordinator. ACoRN organizes several events and programs, including Tour de Farms, the Addison County guide to local food and the Stone Soup conference, among others. Corcoran said the organization has reached a point in development where a dedicated person is needed to plan and execute these events.

"We are kind of the hub for the local food system," he said. "We are the networker for the food system and so are approached by all kinds of people with events about what's happening around the state, conferences, speakers and farm and food safety lectures. We need somebody to coordinate this fulltime."

ACoRN is also hoping to host a slow-money conference in the late fall. When the organization was founded in 2005, the directors realized that the third leg of relocalization was local money, in addition to energy and local food. In 2008, the ACoRN Energy Co-op, separate from ACoRN, adopted the energy work for the program. Corcoran said the organization was left with the "food work," and it has been developing

this aspect over the years.

"We put money on hold because it was much more complicated," he said. "Food is basic, everyone eats. Money was too challenging to pick up at the time."

Corcoran believes his group is now ready to tackle the issue and that this conference will examine how ACoRN might service money in Addison County. There are four key steps to achieve the organization's goal: identify the types of funds to develop, identify sources of capital, create an infrastructure to evaluate projects and disperse the funds. Corcoran believes his plan is fairly complicated and he will ensure professionals are managing all the necessary steps.

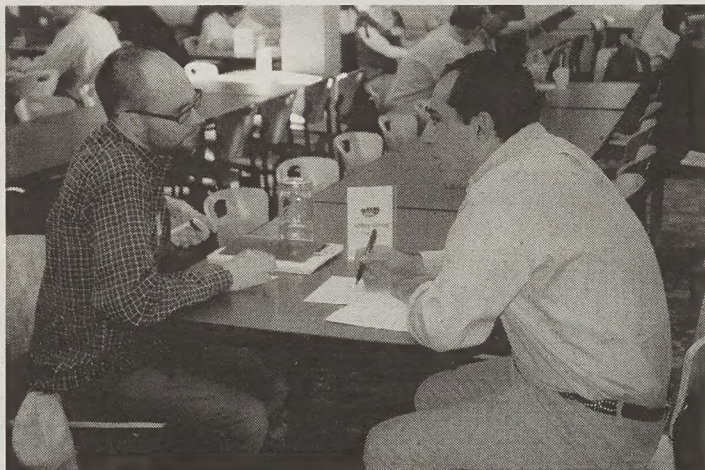
"This is not a project ACoRN is looking to take on itself," he said. "We are a catalyst. We are putting the flag up the pole to signal to the community to have the people interested in this come together."

The conference is tentatively set for this November at the College. "Their [ACoRN's] plans all look really good," said Granstrom. "We [Lincoln Peak Vineyard] are sort of limited in matching [with buyers] because we are producing an alcoholic beverage, so we are not working with the elementary school, but the general trend of what ACoRN is doing is wonderful."

Corcoran also wants to plan a board retreat with the ACoRN directors to further develop the plans for the 2011-2012 year.

Another one of the big projects ACoRN has taken on is the ACoRN Wholesale Collaborative. Corcoran described it as "grant funding to explore feasibility of a wholesale brokerage for produce between Addison County produce growers and institutions." The College figures prominently into the discussion, as it serves 7,000 of the 10,000 daily meals in Addison County. The final report, which was constructed by a 12-member advisory board of all the lead growers and buyers in the county, will be published at the end of May. Board members include individuals from Porter Hospital, Biette, Kathy Alexander, president of the Vermont School Nutrition Association, Bart Litvin, owner of Greg's Meat Market in the town and general manager of the Middlebury Natural Foods Co-op Glenn Lower.

The matchmaker event resulted from this planning study, which



Sara Granstrom, Clare Crosby

analyzed supply and demand, and worked directly with data from the buyers and growers.

"This is not theoretical data, but based on surveys and interviews," said Corcoran.

Hewitt's lecture at the vineyard tied together many of the projects ACoRN has planned. Described as an entertaining speaker by both Corcoran and Granstrom, Hewitt continues to struggle with the notion of what a healthy food system with affordable prices should look like. He spoke much about Hardwick, Vt. and how the area was able to work collaboratively to build a strategy that created employment opportunities for the community and brought prosperity to the town. Hewitt also shared what he feels are the dilemmas surrounding local food and why the system is currently unable, in many places, to feed all people.

"The industrial food system is a flat system and should be contrasted with the local food system, which ideally is more of a circular system," said Corcoran. "Inputs are sourced locally and waste streams go back into the food system, closing the loop."

Annie Rowell '12, a resident of Craftsbury, Vt., which is located in the Hardwick area, attended the meeting, too.

"Vermont's small size can be such a strength for expanding food markets and local food accessibility, especially in the realm of idea sharing," she said in an email. "There is so much to be learned from this statewide community of innovative thinkers. They have created a network of engaged problem-solvers who are equally committed to the success of each others' projects."

Corcoran echoed her thoughts and said it is time to stop waiting for our problems to "magically" be solved.

"Hewitt's philosophy is that it is all about us, let's get on with the work, and this very much ducks tails with our philosophy at ACoRN," he said. "What are we waiting for? It has always been up to us."

On April 28, Ellen Kahler, executive director of the Vermont Sustainable Funds, will speak to the College on the 10-year strategic plan for food in Vermont. Her lecture, "Farm-to-Plate: What does it mean for Addison County growers and businesses," will be held in Bicentennial Hall 216 from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Corcoran encourages all to attend, as he feels the talk is a "snapshot of what is happening in the state and locally [with food]" and believes it is especially important to engage the College in the conversation.

local lowdown

Bernie Sanders book signing

April 28, 5 p.m. – 6 p.m.

Senator Bernie Sanders, the longest serving independent member of Congress in American history, will make an appearance at the Vermont Book Shop. The Vermont Senator will sign copies of his new book, *The Speech: A Historic Filibuster on Corporate Greed and the Decline of Our Middle Class*, for all who stop by. Sanders' book is based on his recent filibuster speech, lasting nearly nine hours, on the Senate floor. Swing by the shop to meet the senator and bring home a piece of history!

Children's program

April 29, 3:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

The Ilsley Public Library will host a free event for children in the kindergarten through the second grade. Anoushka Sinha and Gillian Lui, who are both students at the College, will lead the program. They have selected books and crafts that cater to the event's theme: the environment. Contact either student at asinha@middlebury.edu or glui@middlebury.edu for more information.

Bristol biomass trip

April 30, 8:30 a.m. – 4:15 p.m.

The University of Vermont, the Forest Guild and the Vermont Family Forests have collaborated to celebrate the benefits of biomass energy. They have organized a field trip, though the location is still undetermined, in addition to a conversation about the necessity to protect the forest during harvest. A tour of both a processing plant and harvested areas will be included in the \$20 registration fee. This also includes lunch. For more information and details about how to register, go to <http://www.uvm.edu/forestcarbon/symposium>.

Art display and workshop in Vergennes

April 30, 1 p.m. – 5 p.m.

Make a trip to nearby Vergennes this Saturday to witness an incredible art exhibit: a chain of 1,000 origami cranes. At the Creative Space Gallery, located at 235 Main St., Jill Abilock and other participants will string the cranes together to create a senbazuru, used to grant a wish for those in need. Attendees can help in the project and purchase crane-making kits for just \$1. Proceeds will be donated to earthquake relief efforts in Japan. Don't miss out on the opportunity to learn a new craft and give to a country in need at the same time. For more information on this beneficial event, visit <http://www.creativespacegallery.org>.

Maple Run in Middlebury

May 1, 9 a.m.

Welcome spring with a true challenge: the Middlebury Maple Run. "The Sweetest Half" is a USATF-certified half-marathon; the scenic course winds through downtown and the outlying Middlebury area. The race will start at the Middlebury Volunteer Ambulance Association, located behind Porter Medical Center. All are welcome to participate! After crossing the finish line, enjoy a post-race party with live music from "The Horse Traders." Register online by 4 p.m. on April 28, or in person on April 30 from 5 p.m. – 8 p.m. at the Middlebury Inn and on race day from 7:30 a.m. – 8:45 a.m. at the starting line. For more information, visit <http://www.middleburymaplerun.com>.

The Middlebury Campus

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Editorial

The staff editorial represents the official opinion of The Middlebury Campus as decided by the editorial board.

Pragmatism and optimism abound — and sometimes clash — in this year's elections SGA and Community Council elections. For each of the posts, run-off elections begin today and run until Friday at noon. The Campus endorses **Riley O'Rourke '12** for SGA President and **Kevin Broussard '12** for Student Co-Chair of Community Council.

Serving as SGA President this year, O'Rourke has made good on many of his campaign pledges from the 2010 election season in implementing a more convenient airport shuttle system effective last fall and providing funding for additional break buses to transport students to New York City, Boston and, in the future, Montreal. The SGA's notable achievements this year, including funding a small gym in Ross Commons, pushing a successful initiative to add an additional reading day during finals, to fund and reinstitute Outdoor Introduction for New Kids (OINK) and a trough of other notable achievements are a testament to O'Rourke's ability to effectively translate the concerns of the student body into action. The relationships he has established with College administrators and the familiarity with administrative proceedings he developed during 2010-2011 will also serve his presidency well in 2011-2012. With the unique opportunity to re-elect the SGA President for a second term, the student body can expect continuity and maximum efficiency effective immediately upon O'Rourke's re-election.

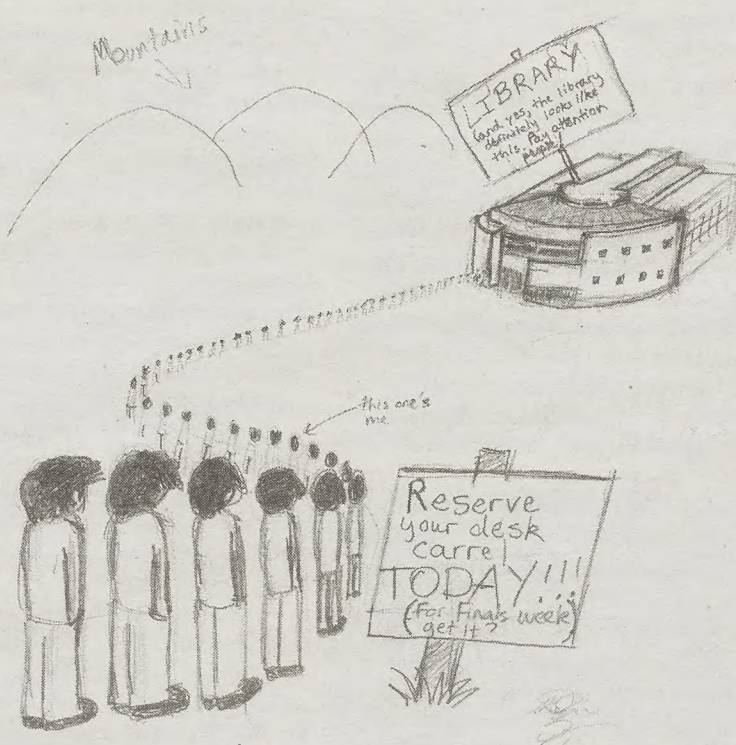
Broussard has demonstrated that he is the right person for the position of SCOCC for 2011-2012. His platform is extensive; his plans to try to include students on the College's Board of Trustees and the Educational Affairs Committee — policies that currently exist at Middlebury's peer institutions — reflect his overall commitment to more meaningful student government. Reforming the judicial appeals committee, which currently excludes some members from voting on appeals cases, also ranks among his most important initiatives. Additionally, the emphasis on punishment in the current judicial process, Broussard believes, results in recidivism rather than a learning experience for individuals and the College community following Honor Code infractions.

Broussard's platform for Community Council is quite ambitious. We do not necessarily recommend that he narrow his goals for the next year, only that he assess which of his objectives he can reasonably achieve. His opponent, Janet Rodrigues '12, seemed to have a better grasp of what the SCOCC can actually accomplish, but she provided a less detailed platform, favoring a more open-ended approach to the position. The goals Rodrigues did mention focused on an accountable student body, and our main concern was that though she emphasized her willingness to talk to students, she identified the administration as her main gauge of student interest. Broussard mentioned several discussions he had already had with different sub-sets of the student population, and his goals, though numerous, seem to engage more actively with students' interests.

While we do not endorse O'Rourke's opponent, Dane Verret '12, for SGA President we absolutely endorse his platform, and we think that his goals might be better accomplished in tandem with the SGA, but not contained within the SGA. Verret aspires to a campus unified and empowered; his speech to the editorial board was moving and his call for mutual understanding among students of all backgrounds and identities resonated with every member. His goals are larger and arguably more important than O'Rourke's, but we believe the SGA presidency would not provide the outlet or forum Verret needs to launch what would essentially be a school-wide social movement. We feel the position of SGA President, while one of leadership, is also one of service to the student body, and following up on the needs of students might ultimately get in the way of Verret's mission to make his vision of student unity a reality.

We endorse O'Rourke and Broussard primarily because of the former's experience and the latter's breadth of knowledge regarding those agenda items he proposes. In the end, only one person may occupy each office, but all members of this community can contribute to forming a stronger, more unified and diverse environment. You can begin, simply enough, by voting.

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Dylan Levy

Notes from the desk: Adam Schaffer

Thank you for voting, now here's your Obama pin

It's no secret that Middlebury is a politically liberal institution. From the students to the faculty and even to the staff, an overwhelming majority of people here consider themselves progressive, liberal, leftist — or even a budding Socialist. And that's not necessarily a bad thing — countless students involve themselves in social justice initiatives on campus, combining their studies and political beliefs to enact real change. But when this left-leaning outlook dominates the classroom, we blur the lines between an academic and a political institution.

When we come into class with our own personal biases towards an idea, we eliminate the possibility for true academic inquiry, one that fairly considers all possibilities first, then comes to a conclusion based on a rational discussion of the issues. For example, outside of the classroom, many of us — myself included — may be opposed to free trade. But when we walk into the classroom, sporting our fair trade coffee and locally grown apple, indignant to evils of corporate America, we eliminate the possibility for an honest discussion of international commerce. People joke about how Middlebury is a bubble, but why not embrace it? For four years, we have the opportunity to set aside our politics and prejudices, shelter ourselves from the politically charged nature of public debate in the “real world” and discuss the facts as we see them.

The same goes for our professors. Some attempt to move the discussion in a particular direction by subtly favoring one side of an issue over another, often times by assigning reading that explores just one side of the debate. Even if his or her personal research directly contradicts that of another scholar, that professor has a duty to his or her students to provide a wide range of opinions. If the opposing viewpoint is so unsubstantiated, then why not give students the opportunity to critique it at face value? Returning to the free trade example, why not let the WTO defend itself, in its own words?

When we jump to what we think are the answers — and ultimately we may be right — we take out the most important step in education: analysis. After our finals in May, most of us will forget the content from

our classes. What we won't forget, though, is the process we took get to our conclusions, a process that is bypassed when readings, discussions and reflections do not include a variety of points of view.

Though we should try to keep ideology out of our classes, in the end we must recognize that being entirely apolitical is impossible. Instead, we can attempt the opposite; we can be “omnipartisan.” We can read WTO publications as we read critiques of free trade. We can follow Professor Dry's example and read the Anti-Federalist Papers side by side with the Federalist Papers. And we can even consider the arguments of climate change critics as we build the — hopefully winning — Solar Decathlon house.

But what we shouldn't do is allow ourselves, or our professors, to limit our point of view, especially when the topic is as personal as gay marriage or as political as international development.

The possibilities extend to how we treat other students, as well. We can encourage people with points of view alien to our own (read: conservative) to speak up in class more often. We can treat them and their ideas with respect, instead of automatically assuming that they believe in big business because they hate poor people.

In my International Law class last week, a lone conservative soul spoke up in class, noting that maybe, just maybe, the Bush administration was right in redefining the legitimate use of force because international terrorism is a threat never before seen. While not everyone agreed, this comment greatly enlivened the discussion, leading us to question whether new circumstances required new rules.

So let's not jump to the back of the book and peek at the answers, eliminating the critical thinking that is at the very essence of a liberal arts education. Let's shed our prejudices and actually consider alternative points of view, not merely disregard them as inherently flawed and unworthy of a fair analysis. If the political right is so wrong, it won't need us targeting it; it will fall on its own as we give it a fair trial — and a fair defense.

ADAM SCHAFER '12 IS A NEWS EDITOR FROM ORINDA, CALIF.

campus policies and information

The Opinions pages of The Middlebury Campus provide a forum for constructive and respectful dialogue on substantive issues. With this in mind, The Campus reserves the right to deny publication of all or part of a submission for any reason. This includes, but is not limited to: the making of assertions based on hearsay; the relation of private conversations; the libelous mention of unverifiable events; the use of vulgar language or personal attacks. Any segment of a submitted article that contains any of the aforementioned will be removed before publication. Contributors will be allowed to reference prior articles published in the Opinions section or announcements for the public record. If a reference is made to prior articles, the submission will be considered a letter to the editor. The Campus will not accept or print anonymous letters. The opinions expressed by contributors to the Opinions section, as well as reviews, columns, editorial comics and other commentary, are views of the individual contributors and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the newspaper. The Campus welcomes letters to the editor at 250 words or less, or opinions submissions at 800 words or less. Submit works directly to the Opinions Editors, Drawer 30, campus@middlebury.edu or via the paper's web site at www.middleburycampus.com. To be considered for publications, submissions must be received by 5 p.m. Sunday. The Campus reserves the right to edit all submissions.

Op-Ed: David Reed

Unsustainable Middlebury

Middlebury has some of the best facilities and resources of any small liberal arts college in America, but not by chance. As our academic standing improved in the last decade, we invested heavily in our infrastructure. Our once modest campus was transformed through the large-scale building projects including Atwater suites, Atwater dining hall, the Davis Family Library, Bi Hall and the Axinn Center; not to mention the extensive renovations of the athletic complex, McCullough and Proctor to name just a few. But unlike many colleges, we did not mandate complete financing prior to starting a building project and therefore we took on hundreds of millions in debt to finance this construction.

Middlebury currently holds approximately \$290 million in long-term debt (almost \$400 million of total liabilities) and an endowment of only \$840 million. Our fiscal year 2011 operating budget (the amount of money we plan to spend this year) is \$230 million, which is financed through a number of means — 55 percent is generated by undergraduate admission fees, 11 percent from Bread Loaf /Language school/ Middlebury Schools

Abroad and a whopping 21 percent is financed from our endowment. This is substantially greater than other comparable colleges such as Williams or Amherst that only finance approximately 5 percent of their operating budget through their endowment.

Middlebury has developed an irresponsible and unsustainable habit of dipping into the endowment to fund current operations, effectively subsidizing the total cost of a Middlebury College education. With so much debt on our balance sheet, we spend seven percent (\$16 million) of our annual operating budget servicing our debt. Coincidentally, we finance seven percent of our operating budget through “gifts and campaigning” meaning our “gift” donors are essentially paying the interest costs of our lavish spending during the early and mid 2000s.

Despite the historic global recession, Middlebury has increased its operating budget every year on record with a total increase of 29 percent since 2005. You may question this considering the aggressive budget cuts, such as the reduction in financial aid, closing of Atwater dining hall or even the temporarily

unkempt lawn surrounding the Bi Hall quad. But think about the new fleet of public safety vehicles (The '04 Ford Escape just didn't cut it) or Middlebury's taste for expensive art. Since 1994 Middlebury has followed a 'one percent policy' that “sets aside one percent of the cost of any renovation or new construction at the college for the purchase, installation, maintenance and interpretation of works of art publicly displayed on campus” — Axinn alone would mandate \$500,000 to be spent on public art. The arts are an integral aspect of a liberal arts education; however, we are spending money we do not have to follow an outdated policy in the midst of a historic economic downturn.

Middlebury has found itself in an unfortunate situation. We are attempting to preserve the quality of a top liberal arts education while maintaining the resources of a university without economies of scale; hence our pricy tuition that is, as incredible as it seems, heavily subsidized through the endowment draw down. This pattern of spending is of concern and is simply unsustainable without generous and continuous alumni

support. There is no doubt that Middlebury is financially dependent on donations and yet, they have frankly failed to make me want to donate.

I have grown increasingly frustrated with Middlebury's arbitrary institutional policies, underfunded Career Services Office, power hunger, rude public safety officers and a set of parking rules that just don't make sense. With an operational model clearly dependent upon donations to fund current/future operations, it is unclear why the administration has not made a better effort to promote an amicable relationship with the student body.

The quality of the student body, professors and the overall experience at Middlebury is unparalleled but the petty administrative policies are bound to frustrate any well-educated young adult. Given their donation dependent financial model, they need to reform their approach to administrative policies because they risk alienating the potential donors upon whom they depend.

DAVID REED '11 IS FROM
NEW CANAAN, CONN.

**We are
spending
money we
do not have
to follow an
outdated
policy.**



heardoncampus

Even something as silly as karaoke. I go to a party, and I stop caring about shame. It's nothing bad. I think being fun is sometimes better than being stuck-up.

— Assistant Professor of Spanish
Enrique Garcia



Rsvp at <http://www.middleburycampus.com>

Mad As Hell: John Birnbaum My four scents

Coincidentally, several friends of mine have gone into the perfumery business. They all just developed new scents and are in the process of marketing them. I mentioned that they might take out an advertisement in the *Campus*, but they didn't want to pay top dollar for a spot. Instead, they convinced me to run their product descriptions through my column, sort of like a freebie.

To learn more about any of these fragrances, or to request a press packet, please contact do_not_reply@aol.com.

“Perception”

Just say the word aloud and let it ring in your ears, slide off the tip of your tongue: Perception. Why? It's sophisticated: not shallow or tacky, insubstantial or trite. It hints at something beneath the surface, something that endures but is not old and does not smell like mothballs. But there is a deceptively sexual air to the word: the hiss of the “c”-sound in Perception, the snap of that second “p”. Perception. It makes girls cry, but it also makes them interested, makes them want to know more — makes them intrigued and mystified. Dare I say: It makes girls intristified.

“Charity”

It is pronounced with a very soft “Ch”, the “arity” slowly rolling along afterwards. It is named after a darling of a lady of the night — God bless her soul — who was willing to give her body not just for money, but for a smile, to men of all ages. The idea is that the word charity, along with the actual fragrance, will put women, ladies, girls, etc., in the giving mood. They will hear “Charity” and feel safe and wholesome. They will then have the desire to give themselves to a man, only asking for a smile or acknowledgement in return. It's a flawless name of a fragrance.

It might even usurp the dog's claim as “man's best friend.” Unfortunately, I am having trouble getting the product FDA approved. So if you could ask all of your friends to join my facebook group (Charity, what the world needs) I, along with every man, will be grateful.

**Yankee-Doodle is
a paradoxically
intoxicating man's
cologne. It is sexy
yet casual. Clean yet
complex. Brisk, yet
inviting; a delightfully
visceral fragrance.**

“Yankee-Doodle”

Yankee-Doodle is a paradoxically intoxicating man's cologne. It is sexy yet casual. Clean yet complex. Brisk, yet inviting. Its incongruence stems from an intriguing blend of scents such as bergamot, lavender-grass, sandalwood, Polish sausage, lime-oil and celery juice. One catches sly hints of mandarin cedar wood and full notes of beans. From this ingenious layering of disparate aromas, Yankee-Doodle comes across as a delight-

fully visceral fragrance. Any true man looking for a cologne with the ironic ability to be both sophisticated and relaxed will find this cologne a more than viable option. Its bottle is seductive and sleek. Press your finger deep into its hole and the atomized liquid kisses your neck softly, or wherever else you might choose to spray. One squirt for work. Two for play.

“Quiver”

I think the sexual charge that “quiver” contains is obvious, but truss' me, there's more than meets the eye. Do you recall the scent as you pressed your nose deep in the middle of your father's old hunting saddle? Do you recall the smell of elk meat pickling in the sod lodge? Do you recall the aroma of dusty marigolds, folded in between the pages of a diary found in a stranger's beside drawer? Yes, and they are potent in my “Quiver.” “Quiver” is a surreptitious and mature scent. This is certainly NOT the cologne either of your stuffy dads would have worn. “Quiver” sets every nerve ending alight with anticipation of conquests to come and sense-memory of victories past. It's sexual, but knowing, and strong. This cologne, like the very arrows that are in lodged in Cupid's “quiver” will drive any man, woman and most marine mammals into the most fevered of love-making.

FDA approval still pending due to the high quantities of flunitrazepam present in the cologne, but my lobbyists in D.C. assure me that with the new balance of power “quiver” should be on the shelves in time for Christmas.

Turn off all of the lights in the New Meadowlands stadium if you have any questions.

JOHN BIRNBAUM '11 IS FROM NEW YORK, N.Y.

Best Week Ever: Jaime Fuller

Oh em gee. Dance sandwich. Laugh Out Loud.

In the *New Yorker* last week, there was a great "Shouts & Murmurs" titled the "Wisdom of Children." There were three segments that described certain seminal moments of everyday life through the innocent eyes of children. For example, "A Conversation at the Grownup Table, as Imagined at the Kid's Table" featured a Mom who said "Pass the wine please, I want to become crazy," and "I'm angry! I'm angry all of a sudden!" to which the Dad responds, "I'm angry too! We're angry at each other!" If life at the big kids table were actually this entertaining, I would always get really excited about family dinner parties. There is also a segment about how college kids envision the United States government, which seems heavily influenced by the West Wing and Schoolhouse Rock.

This was one of the best things I have read in a long time, and I felt that this format needed to be borrowed and used in a Middlebury context. Hence, "The Wisdom of Children: Middlebury Edition." Maybe David Remnick will see this and realize my potential. That would be nice.

I. The Bunker, as Subtitled by Fifth Graders

First-year 1: Oh wow, they are playing my favorite song from Glee.

First-year 2: Laugh out loud. Let's dance crazy!

First-year 1: Ok! Gosh, look at that boy he looks like Robert Pattinson.

First-year 2: You are right. Laugh out loud. Oh em gee. He is coming over here.

First-year 1: Oh em gee.

Senior: Hey I am a vampire.

First-year 1: Oh em gee. I love you.

Senior: Just kidding.

First-year 1: Oh. I don't like real boys. They have cooties.

Senior: I was double just kidding.

First-year 1: Oh em gee. I love vampires. They are my favorite.

Senior: Super Smash Brothers is my favorite, but I like girls after I drink crazy juice.

First-year 1: Let's dance sandwich.

II. Old Chapel Meetings, as Imagined by College Kids.

Liebowitz: What is on the agenda for today?

Spears: The students are not complaining enough. We must find something to take away.

Biette: What else can we take away? We have taken away their bowls. We have taken away their juice. We have taken away Atwater. What else could they possibly care about?

Liebowitz: They must care about more than food Matthew.

Biette: No. If we take away their food, we take away their spirit.

Collado: No. They also care about parties.

Igor: Ah yes, the parties! Take away the parties and they have nothing!

Daniere: Yes! The parties! We must squelch them!

Liebowitz: We cannot do this haphazardly. We need a strategic plan.

Igor: Yes, a plan.

Spears: We should enlist the help of our puppets.

Collado: The SGA and the *Campus*?

Spears: Yes. They have never let us down.

Liebowitz: We should have Riley pass a bill creating a nine o'clock curfew for Friday and Saturday.

Igor: Yes!

Liebowitz: And the *Campus* must write an editorial about the evils of partying, College Shorts about awful partying at other schools and an especially unpleasant Public Safety Log.

Boudah: I will make sure Officer Chris is particularly nasty with citations this weekend.

Liebowitz: Perfect.

Spears: Once again, we will show the students who is boss.

All: Liebowitz is boss!

Liebowitz: No. We are all boss. We all have the power to make the students unhappy. That is what we are here to do.

JAIME FULLER '11 IS THE MANAGING EDITOR FROM NORTH CREEK, N.Y.

Diverse Perspectives: Chris Brady

Thoughts on race from a tourist

Race is an issue that deeply interests me, but not because I feel like I have a huge personal stake in it. I think of myself as more of an ethnic tourist. It's not that I don't feel a distinct connection with an ethnic heritage: I never felt it more than when I left home and realized how special my experiences were. It's just that in Hawaii, where I'm from, my multicultural background is the norm, not the exception and in a way that had always made it seem like a non-issue. Despite what some skeptics might say, I come from a place where the issue of race is handled very, very differently than it is in Middlebury — and by extension, New England and much of the Mainland, I would venture to say.

In Hawaii, no one race constitutes majority, making it a unique case in America. Caucasians are one of the smaller ethnic groups and perhaps even more extraordinary is the fact that the two largest minority groups on the mainland (African Americans and Latinos) are almost nonexistent there, and yet for the most part Hawaii isn't a fractured place. On the contrary, it has acculturated to an "American" way of

life in a big way since it became a state half a century ago. My little brother and I played Pokémon in elementary school like everyone else, and watched Static Shock when we got home in the afternoon. We grew up with Jon Stewart and Bernie Mac, and even if we didn't understand the specifics of the song "White Christmas" in Hawaii, we listened to our dad sing it around the house just as much as any snow-covered family in Vermont, I'm sure. Hawaii is an exception among exceptions. And I always find myself thinking back to home when I hear discussions about race here at Middlebury, how different things are and how intriguing those differences are: the sensitivity, the baggage, the self-selection and especially the power of experience and language.

At Middlebury I learned what it meant to be multiracial — to appear one way to some and another to others, and maybe to feel entirely different from how I looked. Although in Hawaii I would most definitely be considered "white," that label really doesn't do much

work in Vermont, where my Japanese grandmother, my local grandpa and my culturally Asian upbringing are all dramatic departures from my Mainland white friends' experiences. Coming to a place like Middlebury where identity (how and what one identifies himself as) is so important to social behavior, it's been strange, unsettling and liberating to live in a sort of interstitial world, detached from the considerations that bog down others: I've listened to Julia Alvarez talk to a rousing crowd at Cafécito hour, I took my blond-haired girlfriend to the Black Pearl ball last year and I was one of the several dozen people who

dined at Alianza's Valentine's Day banquet, which had set tables for at least twice that number (I even — awkwardly but earnestly — danced with the Mariachi band they hired), and yet my last name (Brady) doesn't reflect those particular aspects of my life.

I'm intrigued by the things we think divide us and the many ways in which we find reflections of our own humanity in the lives of others. And far from being black and white, if one can excuse such trite turns of phrase,

race is complicated, even in Hawaii where longstanding colonial attitudes converge with the stereotypes of military residents, and the curious demographic effects of Asian and American tourism. Racial dynamics at Middlebury can foster a sense of inclusion just as often as it engenders anxiety and isolation. After all, what other East Coast school sponsors an Asian cooking house, let alone one that can fill to capacity in the first fifteen minutes of opening its doors on Ramen Night? What Middlebury may lack in racial diversity it almost certainly makes up for in cultural curiosity, as anyone who's been to a Katsuhama feast day or a Cafécito salon or a Distinguished Men of Color event can attest to. I can't help but wonder if that's because we're given a unique opportunity here to step outside limiting labels, to cross boundaries, to transcend self-made taboos and be ethnic tourists.

CHRIS BRADY '12 IS FROM HONOLULU, HAWAII.

Op-ed: Michael and Judy Olinick

Past disgrace should not be forgotten

With this semester's end, spring flowers and warm days comes the 20th anniversary of the infamous Middlebury College staff firings of 1991.

A decade ago, when we noted the 10th anniversary of this shameful chapter in the College's history, some asked why we were dredging up these unpleasant memories. Probably they will ask again. The answer then and now is that many people have forgotten and many more, who arrived after the firings, have never heard of them. Out of respect to the innocent victims who suffered and are still suffering and in hopes that nothing similar will happen again, we believe that the community should keep this event in its collective memory.

On a beautiful May morning 20 years ago, College supervisors and administrators forced 17 loyal and unsuspecting employees out of their offices, preventing some even from retrieving their sweaters and purses. On the advice of the notorious outplacement firm Challenger, Gray and Christmas, the disoriented staff members were herded into waiting vans and driven to the Hadley Barn on the golf course. There they were told that their positions had been eliminated and that they would remain on the College payroll for some brief, unspecified time only if they complied minutely with the instructions of the outplacers.

The College justified the firings by claiming that the institution was in dire financial straits. It said that the jobs of the expelled employees were non-essential and had been cut with no consideration as to what individuals occupied them and no evaluation of the quality of their work. The College promised that the outplacement firm would help the terminated staff members find new jobs within a few months and explained that it had resorted to this corporate execution style of firing because it lacked experience and "didn't know how" to dismiss 17 employees.

It soon became clear that every statement but the last was a lie. There was no financial emergency. Of the 17 fired employees, most were woman and over the age of 50. Some had been working at the college more than 30 years. Several of the "unnecessary" posi-

tions were immediately filled again and the outplacement firm had scant useful advice to offer anyone.

Ugly nation-wide coverage eventually forced the college to issue meager severance packages to the fired staff members. Over the years some have been hired into other college positions (without the benefit of their earned seniority) some found jobs with other area employers, some retired and some have died. Some of the psychological wounds have scabbed over, but it is unlikely they will ever heal completely. The frequently-invoked image of a "family" of Middlebury College faculty, staff, students and alumni became a bitter joke and the open, trusting, community spirit vanished forever.

The College's ill-starred new president, Timothy Light, was forced to resign in the aftermath of the firings. But his subordinate accomplices rose to the top ranks of the administration and faculty, the chief among them being President Emeritus John McCardell. Not one publicly dissented at the time of the firings and not one has since apologized or acknowledged that the college gravely wronged innocent people. If John McCardell felt any twinge of remorse, he gave no sign of it at his accolade-laden departure for Tennessee last year.

Many terrible things have happened in the past 20 years: the nightmare of 9/11, the interminable wars the US is pursuing in Iraq and Afghanistan, natural and man-made environmental disasters and the national and world-wide economic crisis. With millions losing their jobs across the country, Middlebury's layoffs may appear as a little, long-ago problem in a small town in a tiny state. But concern for others everywhere must begin with concern for our friends, neighbors and co-workers at home. As Vermont poet Martha Zweig says, "Who'll say boo to get a penny's worth of anybody's little life back?" Fortunately, many people did at the time, and we must always be ready to do so again.

MICHAEL OLINICK IS A PROFESSOR OF MATHEMATICS AND JUDY OLINICK IS THE COORDINATOR OF RUSSIAN, GERMAN AND JAPANESE STUDIES.

Diverse Perspectives is a space for students to reflect on some aspect of identity as it relates to the Middlebury experience. Any and all students are welcome to submit 500-700 words on any part of their Middlebury experiences, whether a general opinion or thoughts on a specific incident, to campus@middlebury.edu

On a beautiful May morning 20 years ago, College administrators forced 17 loyal and unsuspecting employees out of their offices; some left their sweaters and purses.

Times reporter talks Wikileaks, Obama Doctrine

By Kylie Atwood
STAFF WRITER

"Little competes with the last six months — the political world has changed," David Sanger, the chief Washington correspondent for the *New York Times*, explained to a large Middlebury audience in his powerful lecture titled "Wikileaks and the Toppling of Middle East Dictators: Covering the Winter of Global Surprises." The talk, sponsored by MCAB, took place in Mead Chapel last Wednesday.

Sanger explained the process the *Times* went through when planning the controversial release of the secret governmental documents discovered by the whistle-blowing website Wikileaks. He also discussed his view of the both the recent protests in the Middle East known as the "Arab Spring" and the Obama presidency.

As the chief Washington correspondent since 1994 and a *Times* writer for 26 years, Sanger is presumably one of the most educated individuals on these issues. He also has a connection to Middlebury as he was on the *Harvard Crimson*, with Schumann Distinguished Scholar Bill McKibben.

"I thought Sanger did a great job of [bringing] the issues surrounding controversial topics like Wikileaks and the Stuxnet worm down to a level that an average student could understand and intelligently discuss," said Lucy Jackson '12.

Sanger explained that the Wikileaks documents first came to the *Times* from the *Guardian*, a British newspaper. The *Guardian* had received the documents from Julian Assange, the Australian founder of Wikileaks. Based on this fact, Sanger expressed that the documents would have come out even if the *Times* did not publish them.

But before releasing them to the public, Sanger explained, the *Times* reviewed each of the 250,000 documents. During this process the ineffective nature of the United States' system of classification became evident. Everything is stamped with "secret," but Sanger explained that many of

those documents were not secret at all.

After reviewing and creating a database of the documents, the *Times* gave the U.S. Government two days to review the 250 documents that the *Times* deemed important and worth releasing. This happened, Sanger recalled, during the week of Thanksgiving 2010. The process assured the removal of individuals' names in order to protect their safety.

However, Sanger made it clear that the *Times* and the U.S. government did not see completely eye-to-eye.

The two parties, Sanger said, agreed that the U.S. government's ongoing efforts should be protected. However, *Times* intended to print candid comments by American government officials, an action to which the government was opposed. Ultimately, the *Times* decided not to hold back simply to avoid the embarrassment of U.S. diplomats.

"It was enlightening to hear about the Wikileaks revelations from the man who coordinated their release," said Colin Gibson '11, who is a co-chair of the MCAB Speakers Committee, which brought Sanger to Middlebury. "I personally heard a few new things about the rationale for releasing the documents in the *Times*, and how they were selected."

By releasing the documents, some argue that there was "harm done for no reason." Sanger countered this criticism by explaining that in releasing the documents, the *Times* did try to keep individuals mentioned safe. Furthermore, since the Wikileaks documents were released, the Arab press has begun writing more and more about the Iran nuclear program.

The documents also showed President Zine E. Abidine Ben Ali of Tunisia to be a corrupt leader, according to U.S. intelligence. This could have, in some part, served as a catalyst for the Tunisian uprisings that then spread to many other Middle Eastern countries.

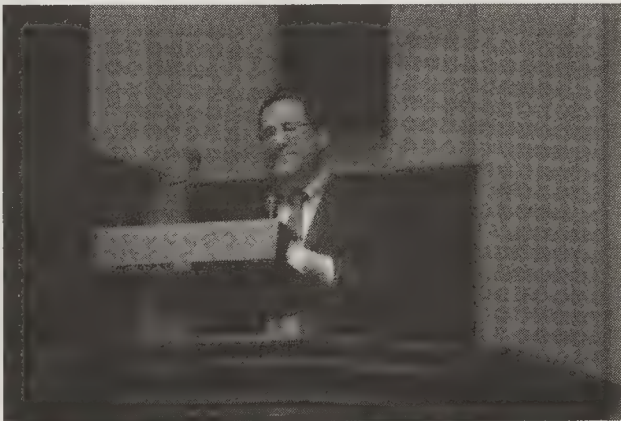
"The science of predicting is poor — no one saw this

coming," Sanger explained as he pointed out that before the Middle East catapulted into such intense revolutions, Iran was the biggest struggle for the U.S. It was even a country that the U.S. attempted to use cyber warfare against, with the use of Stuxnet, in order to track the country's nuclear plans.

In the future, Sanger believes that Iran will re-emerge as the single most important country in the Middle East in relation to the U.S.

Regarding these events, and on a larger scale, Sanger believes the Obama presidency to be quite pragmatic. His campaign may have been based on idealism but his response to the revolutions in the Middle East have been very realistic in trying to maintain U.S. allies. And now, at least, "no one is shouting 'We hate America,'" Sanger commented.

Alison Stanger, professor of International Politics and Economics and chair of the political science department, thought that the lecture was "a wise and enlightening tour of the central challenges facing contemporary American foreign policy."



Eleanor Horowitz, Photo Editor

Times correspondent David E. Sanger addresses students and faculty in Mead Chapel last Wednesday.

Midd expands Earth Day celebration to full week

By Kelsi Morgan
STAFF WRITER

This year Middlebury students joined over a billion people in celebrating Earth Day, what, according to the Earth Day Network, is the "largest civic observance in the world." In an effort to do more than celebrate the planet, the SGA Environmental Affairs Committee organized a week's worth of events to promote support and awareness of environmental issues. This year's theme was "There Is No Planet B."

Katie Romanov '12, this semester's SGA Environmental Council director, said that the theme was designed to "remind people that this is our one chance to protect our planet by living sustainably and responsibly."

While the week was organized by the SGA, various student organizations contributed to the schedule. From lectures on climate change to a giant cake wishing everyone a

happy Earth Day, students found diverse ways to celebrate.

Olivia French '14, co-founder of "Hike a Trail, Save a Forest," planned a hike on April 17 up Snake Mountain to raise money for the Plant a Billion Trees organization.

"My brother and I founded [Hike a Trail, Save a Forest] together, because we just realized that so much of our western lifestyle is dependent on rainforests," said French. "Forests are so important to reducing global warming, and the Plant a Billion Trees program is so great because for every dollar you give, they plant a tree."

French hopes to hold a hike each year to raise money for the organization.

"Other colleges joined with us this year and hiked where they were, and I hope that it keeps expanding each year," said French.

Another of this year's events was the screening of a new film about carbon neutrality, "Carbon Nation."

"It was uplifting to finally see an environmental documentary that showcases real solutions, as opposed to the doom and gloom scenario often portrayed in the media," said Romanov. "I highly recommend it."

On April 23, the Residential Sustainability Coordinators (RSCs) of Cook Commons hosted an RSC Festival. Many local businesses, farmers and student organizations participated.

Head of the Cook Commons RSCs Jak Knelman '12 organized the event along with the help of Cook RSCs French, Leslie Reed '14, Vincent Mariano '14 and Suzanne Calhoun '14.

"We wanted to bring the whole school together," said Knelman. "With Cook commons RSCs heading [the RSC Festival] up, we knew we could bring the campus together. It's usually held in town, but we wanted to bring it up here

so it could be more accessible for students."

After deciding to hold a festival on campus, each of the RSCs did their part to invite local businesses and student organizations to attend.

"[Knelman] emailed the Farmer's Market at Middlebury Marbleworks," said Calhoun. "And we got quite a few from there. Each RSC went around and contacted student organizations."

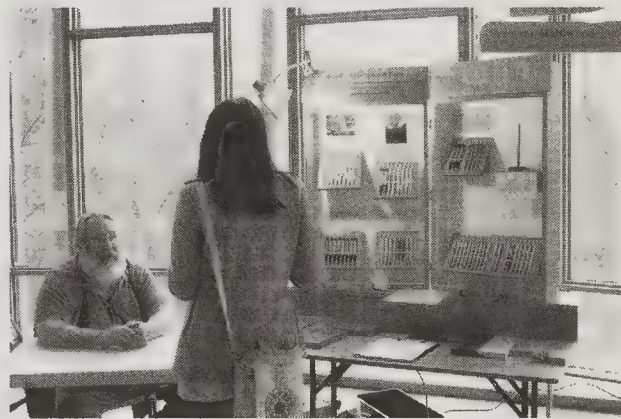
"A big part of this is how you can access this stuff on campus and around this area," said Knelman.

And, ultimately, that's what Earth Week was about.

"Earth Week lets students know of all the resources — both on campus and in the local community — that they can tap into to participate in environmental initiatives during their time at the College," said Romanov. "It is really important, for underclassmen especially, to know that there is lots going on, and there are many ways to get involved."



RSCs organize cheese sampling station for Earth Day festival.

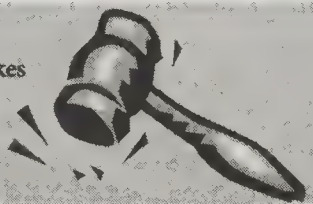


Photos by Jiayi Zhu

The Earth Day festival featured a table for the Vermont Hardwood Pens Company.

How Students Organize

As elections approach, the *Campus* takes a closer look at MCAB, the SGA and Community Council, pgs. 12-13



Our Blog, MiddBlog

An inside look at Middlebury's other source of news, pg. 15



Midd's Own

Youtube Sensation

See how one professor uses the internet as a teaching tool, pg. 14

HEAD OF THE CLASS

Election season is over at Middlebury, and for the students who do not vote, which is the majority of those at Middlebury, this might not mean that much. Do we even know what the Community Council Co-Chair and Student Government Association (SGA) President do, or what they are in charge of? Those who most of us do not help elect make far-reaching decisions that affect most aspects of our Middlebury experience. The *Campus* investigated the structure, goals and projects that are part of three of the biggest student-run groups on campus: the Middlebury College Activities Board (MCAB), Community Council and SGA.

By Leah Pickett, Features Editor

Defining the groups

The SGA is intended to represent the interests of students on campus and administer the student activities fee to implement programs that accomplish this goal. They support all student groups — everyone from club sports teams to the WRMC. The factor that clearly distinguishes the SGA from other organizations is its access to funds; while MCAB requests funds from the SGA for events and the Community Council proposes programs but does not use money itself, the SGA collects the funds through the annual student activities fee to directly implement programs. Although SGA President Riley O'Rourke '12 says that the SGA "is not here to be a stopgap for the College," it does pay for projects consistent with the goals of the College that Old Chapel does have the financial resources to provide.

With the 150 active student organizations representing a 50 percent increase in the last 10 years, the SGA has its hands full, especially since "the vast majority of originations take some sort of money," said Associate Dean of Students and Director of the Center for Campus Activities and Leadership (CCAL) Doug Adams.

SGA approaches tackling campus issues through a variety of avenues. First, it generally continues support for preapproved programs — like printing the *Campus*, maintaining library hours and keeping midnight breakfast; programs SGA implements itself — like the break buses; and capital expense programs, which require sinking large amounts of the built-up reserve money into one-time projects. The two new elliptical machines that the SGA purchased last year are examples of this type of project, as is the project to restore Worth Mountain Lodge at the Snow Bowl.

MCAB also represents the students by providing events they would like to see on campus. Although the Commons Councils are charged with the task of organizing events at the Commons level, MCAB organizes events for the student body as a whole, as well as helping with especially large Commons events.

Unlike both MCAB and the SGA, the Community Council is not charged with implementing policy or programs; rather, the Council focuses on making recommendations regarding non-academic student-life issues. Some of the most visible issues this year have been dining hall overcrowding, the push for gender neutral housing, problems with increased vandalism, housing issues and policies regarding social houses and academic interest houses.

The combination of faculty and staff on Community Council is intended to help both students and faculty feel more comfortable with the ability of the Council to come to moderate solutions.

"If there's something that targets faculty but we want student input, they can come to us," said Community Council Co-Chair Raymond Queliz '11. "They can come to Community Council to come up with a solution that will benefit everyone. Sometimes there's trouble with communication [between faculty/staff and students], but usually it works out. We try to compromise."

The faculty and staff are often able to give insight into what types of changes might need to be implemented before a proposal is passable. Dean of College and Chief Diversity Officer Shirley Collado, for instance, often talks with President of the College Ronald Liebowitz before proposals are submitted. Because of this

communication, the proposals that land on Liebowitz's desk are usually ones he is willing to accept.

"We word it in a way that we know for a fact that it's going to pass," Queliz said. This procedure also has a logistical implication: "We don't want to send [Liebowitz] anything that we know won't pass because then we just spent an entire meeting on absolutely nothing."

Although the groups have fairly well-defined boundaries, sometimes there are some ambiguities — what happens, for instance, if the Community Council starts a project that they realize will affect mostly just students, or that requires money that the SGA would need to allocate? When such issues arise, the fact that the SGA President and Community Council Co-chair are members of each other's organizations helps a lot.

In the case of a proposal for "condo packs" of dishware for houses and suites this year (intended to reduce the amount of dishes taken out of the dining hall), the Community Council transferred the project to the SGA after realizing that it was both a student-centered and monetary issue. But sometimes, as in the case of the new plan for a Hebrew house, the Community Council does approve projects that require funding, but it does not deal with the logistics after the proposal is passed.

Ultimately, the boundaries between the two organizations may sometimes be a little murky.

"It's worked out because Riley and I ended up being on the same page," said Queliz. "But there needs to be more clarification on how [Community Council and the SGA] work together."

This year's projects

Even with some setbacks and logistical confusion, all three groups have been able to make big strides this year.

The SGA has initiated the cheap airport rides program, pushed for an extra day as part of the reading period, opened the Redfield Proctor up for students, received approval for a gym in Ross Commons, re-opened the Grille and Grille delivery. Additionally, the first-year orientation trips will continue to run through the Mountain Club with SGA funding.

The Community Council worked to pass the gender-neutral housing initiative and has studied the dining hall crowding issues. They have also initiated a project to create a Hebrew House on campus.

Aside from continued event programming, MCAB's major goals this year revolved around hearing new perspectives. MCAB accomplished this through encouraging applications from members of Commons Councils, and this led to new committee leadership that had already had experience on the Commons level.

"It's nice because they have a different perspective on such a range of events — from apple picking to fondue Friday to these massive events," MCAB President Maria Perille '11 said. "They're skilled in communication with Commons deans and also with MCAB and have the programming experience."

Recent changes

MCAB hopes to continue to encourage inter-group communication by pushing to reinstate a treasurer as part of MCAB. Since the treasurer would also be part of the SGA, this would create another layer of cohesion between the two groups which sometimes do not interact much outside the SGA's finance committee (the com-

mittee which would appoint this liaison).

"[Having a treasurer] allows for more communication between SGA and MCAB," Perille said. "And it's nice that they know where the money they've allocated is going."

The evolution of MCAB's integration with other student groups has been on the upswing for years, after the Inter-Commons Council — which included the Commons Chairs of each commons — merged with MCAB five years ago. Although Adams says the merger was intended to "ensure that they didn't have scheduling problems" between MCAB events and larger commons events like Cook Foam or Brainerd Bacchanalia, for example, it also helped allow MCAB to work with leaders within the commons system to help plan and implement effective programming.

This evolution has been part of a larger trend within MCAB as the group has moved to steadily incorporate more members and interests. Ten years ago, for instance, there were only nine MCAB members. Now, the group of about 65 handles much larger events and is "much more representative of the student body," according to Adams.

"The key element they've gained is that they're incredibly representative of student interests, and that process will continue," said Adams. "What they do will continue to change because it's what students want to see."

The Community Council has also expanded membership in recent years; whereas the council is supposed to have only eight student voting members, they made the change this year to expand voting privileges to the two alternates, who had to come to all the meetings anyway. The rationale was that those who participate and hear all the same information should have the same rights to vote on issues.

And new voting members have not been the only additions to meetings. The Community Council's docket of important cases this year — especially the debate over gender neutral housing — ensured that about half of the group's meetings (which are always open) were attended by outsiders.

Changes within the SGA have existed mainly in the realm of finance. The allocation process, which divides the \$380 each student pays in activities fees every year to groups all over campus through the SGA's Finance Committee, has evolved over time.

Most importantly, the SGA has begun making an effort to spend down its massive reserves by encouraging clubs and groups to reduce the amount of leftover funds at the end of the year through a variety of strategies. In the past, the Finance Committee was careful with spending, possibly in an effort to avoid the budget shortfall that occurred five years ago. At that point, the negative reserves caused budget cuts to clubs and groups, and the activities fee, which had previously just increased by \$20 each year and was not keeping up with the pace of new club and group formation, doubled. The period of fiscal austerity that followed led to years of scant spending.

"The Finance Committee has been responsible with the funds," said Adams. "Over time they have changed their policies to be responsive to the needs and requests of student groups."

Through this process the group relaxed many of its policies on spending, but this took time.

"It's a bit like steering the Titanic ... and it's not something that they could shift quickly because they didn't want to negatively affect any of the groups that were being funded."

Looking to the future

With reserves at a much higher level than they were previously and an effort to lower the level to a manageable \$150,000, the SGA plans to start doing some big things. The SGA was budget neutral this year — meaning that the activities fee amounted to the exact amount of money clubs and groups needed — but next year, it plans to start spending the reserves down. The goal will be to cut the reserves in half in two or three years.

The SGA has been careful to make sure that when it starts spending the reserves, it is spending them in the right place.

"[The Finance Committee] needed to take the time to find out what the students wanted, since they certainly don't want to spend student money irresponsibly," said Adams. "It's about finding the balance between acting decisively but acting with student interest in mind."

Projects that will help out in this effort are the Ross gym, the re-vamping of the Worth Mountain Lodge at the Snow Bowl and the proposed bus stand at Adirondack Circle. Additional projects planned are the creation of an "arts and crafts room" in the Crest Room of McCullough — it will come equipped with materials like lamination machines and posterboards for student groups to use — and pushing for a pass/fail option.

This spending of reserves will be one of the biggest SGA initiatives in the coming years, but the group has undergone major changes in the past 10 years as well. Like MCAB, the SGA has moved to incorporate the Commons system into its structure.

Before Commons/SGA integration, there was a representative for each dorm on campus and a highly decentralized student government, but since there has been a consolidation of representatives into the SGA and Commons Councils.

This new organization "makes [the SGA] very dynamic and nimble; it can change for what students need at that time," Adams said.

As far as the structure of the organization, SGA has no plans to change.

"I think they understand themselves very well," said Adams. And as far as improvements, "I think [O'Rourke] might tell you that they need to market themselves better; they're a little too humble when it comes to the things they do."

Although the fact that the Community Council responds to current issues and student initiatives makes the agenda for any coming year fairly unpredictable, Queliz can name some goals for the future: awareness of the group is one thing he would like to see change.

"I want more and more people to apply to be on it and more people to know what it actually is," he said. "Because it deals with more everyday aspects of the campus and specifically student life, it's something that directly affects students and creates an inclusive environment for students, faculty, staff, and administration; it's a lot more important, but people don't really know about it."

Ultimately, although all the organizations have different structures, memberships, visions and procedures, they have some common goals.

"One thing that is similar in all three is the fact that they're serving students' interests," Adams said. "They're all volunteers trying to make sure Middlebury is a better place for student interests. So although they're very different groups, in that way they're the same."

SGA

executives

committees

press secretary

tech director

senate

current SGA projects

transportation

finance

student government

campus safety

environmental

international affairs

diversity

internal affairs

community relations

diversity

internal affairs

community relations

diversity

internal affairs

community relations

accomplishments

MCAB

[about 60 people are members of MCAB]

executive board

full board

Divides into
committees of
approximately 10
people

traditions

Homecoming, winter
carnival, etc.

social

Weekly events

concerts

Anything from
McCullough to Kenyon

marketing

Getting the vote out

speakers

Allocates money,
bringing in major
speakers every other year

members

Chairs (1-2) of each
committee, commons
representatives (2-3/
commons)

voting

Votes on any event over
\$10,000, there must
be 2/3 approval for
big speakers and big
concerts. 1/2 approval
for 51 Main and Grille
events.

COMMUNITY COUNCIL

[18 members, 10 are students]

students

faculty/staff

hot issues this year

- +Gender neutral housing
- +Approval of a Hebrew house
- +Return of dining hall dishes
- +Vandalism on campus

Co-chairs, three faculty
appointees and five staff
appointees.



When I started this column at the beginning of my fourth semester, I had just come out of a series of non-relationships and random hook-ups. I possessed a bright-eyed determination to show this campus the evils of not committing, the perils of casually hooking up without emotional investment.

For someone who has very few prejudices about how/with whom/where/when people decide to sex it up, I was surprisingly convinced our generation was going down a dangerous route. I thought the strongest tethers we wanted to form to each other were late-night sexts and maybe the occasional morning-after spoon. We were sloppily making out in McCullough and having drunken sex without talking about it. We were playing all sorts of games when it came to expressing our feelings: you can't ask him to come over every night because then he might suspect you actually like him, etc. I heard the same stories over and over in the dining hall and from my friends about potential love interests that culminated in a couple weeks of sleeping together, nothing more.

I grew despondent. Where were all of the feelings?! Where were the dates and the romance, the secret love notes and less secret dining hall serenades? I browsed the Proctor crushes thread on Middlebury Confessional with hope, but I left frustrated — is it really that hard to say "I like you" in person?

I wanted people first to have deep feelings, then to share them and then to put them on the line every chance they got. Essentially, I wanted everyone to do things the way I do them. And then I realized that everyone would be a crazy (albeit cuddly) emotional train wreck half the time, and around here people have to get sh*t done. There just isn't enough time and people don't have enough energy to go around constantly pouring our hearts out. As reluctant (and terrible at it) as I was to compartmentalize my feelings occasionally to do my work, I think there comes a time when every MiddKid has to sacrifice a little bit of our essentiality in the pursuit of productivity. It's something I still don't like about the Middlebury experience, but I can recognize that I knew what I was signing up for. I can also recognize that, in little bursts, we get our essentiality back, and just because we sometimes sacrifice it doesn't mean we're not consciously trying to reclaim it.

I think casual sex is one of those sacrifices. We need to take shortcuts sometimes, and a lot of important interactions — romantic or otherwise — can feel like distractions when we have seven nights' worth of work ahead of us. I used to look around and see only those shortcuts. I thought efforts to understand each other were missing; I thought we weren't really connecting if we were just boning. But in the two years of increasing responsibilities and workload since I started this column, I've begun to see how our shortcuts might actually mean we do understand each other. We're making space for each other's productive selves by dropping a lot of the rituals and formalities around sex and dating; it's easier to be close to someone if you take the casual route. In all my clamoring for compassion and recognition of each other's humanity around sex, I missed the attempts at exactly those things.

People don't necessarily go out to the bar or the Bunker thinking, "I am going to make as real a connection with someone as I can." I don't think we always actively appreciate that we're interacting on a level that fits our abilities, and I definitely don't think that everyone consciously wants a "meaningful connection" — on the surface, we want sexy time and simple relief from our everyday stresses. But my grand point is that where I used to think we were missing something as a generation, I now see that, like most generations, we just approach things differently. We have to reframe tradition to fit our needs and goals, and we are.

And if the shortcut gets us there, I still hold out hope for the scenic route taking us back.

Lea Calderon-Guthe '11.5 is the editor-in-chief from Chapel Hill, N.C.

staffspotlight Enrique Garcia

By Shannon Fiedler

STAFF WRITER

There is a whole new category of celebrities these days: The YouTube Sensation. Some become quotable classics, like Kittens Inspired by Kittens (I want beef jerky!) or Marcel the Shell (Some people say my head's too big for my body, but I say, compared to what?). Sometimes it's just an incident of 'kid's say the darndest things,' like "Charlie bit my finger" or "I like turtles." YouTube stars are born and remembered, but they're not all inaccessible.

Middlebury has its own faculty YouTube star: Enrique Garcia, assistant professor of Spanish. Garcia uses his YouTube account, "El profesor quijotesco," to teach his classes on visual culture and cinema.

"I teach the scenes in my class," said Garcia of his YouTube uploads. "I want to give them perspective. They feel that Middlebury is in the middle of nowhere and think they cannot have a narrative here, so I want to prove them wrong."

His most recent video centered on a vampire contingent in town.

"I think the future is [the] web being used," said Garcia. "Students enjoy these more than a three-hour movie."

Possibly his most viewed video is his Avatar parody, where Garcia himself dresses as a Naavi avatar. It was his Halloween special, and it is a remake of the movie set in Middlebury, Vt. Garcia's video starts exactly as the movie does and includes key features from the film such as the video diary and intricate costumes. Garcia even paints himself blue though he had some initial reservations about whether this would be politically correct.

"Blue-face," he called it. "It's not racial because it's not a real ethnicity," said Garcia, "but it's the same principle."

Garcia used the political and racial issues brought up in his Avatar Parody as topics for discussion in his class.

"In Latin America, a lot of people were Naavi for Halloween," Garcia said. "I read that in Puerto Rico stores were charging \$300 to make you a Naavi. But they wouldn't dare dress as a real native because of their lower class."

Garcia felt that students really appreciated his use of alternative media as a teaching tool.

"Students had a blast," said Garcia. "I want to show students they don't have to be stuck up with their presentations. Our society is obsessed with formality, but I'm saying, 'Look, I'm putting me in as an Avatar! And there's no shame in it!'"

"Even something as silly as karaoke," Garcia said. "I go to a party, and I stop caring about shame. It's nothing bad. I think being fun is sometimes better than being stuck-up."

Garcia stressed the importance of having fun, especially in schoolwork. For example, the seminar class he teaches is on Latin American comic books.

"It's my greatest creation," he said. "I think it's the only class on Latin American comic books in the United States. I've googled it and found nothing."

After earning a graduate degree in comparative literature Garcia began researching comic books, especially those published in Spanish America.

"I probably have the biggest collection of comic books from Spanish America," said Garcia. His office is filled with comics of all different styles and types; he has two large filing cabinets full of them as well as a bookcase, and there are various others scattered around the room. "I found them on eBay," he said. "In Latin America, stuff published in the 60s and 70s is not republished and there's no way of finding it."

Of all his various books, Garcia does have a favorite: a comic called "Memín." Originating in Mexico "Memín" focuses on poor people in the 40s and 50s. It was groundbreaking but also very controversial because the main character is a 1940s minstrel, which is defined as a "member of a troupe of performers in blackface typically giving a comic program of Negro songs and jokes."

"It's a great work, so it brings

[up] the question: do you make it disappear because of racial issues? ... It's different than minstrels in the U.S. because in the U.S. the minstrel was used to back-up racial thoughts by the government," said Garcia. "The other thing is that in a weird way, [the minstrel] is not like even a real character. There's no African population in Mexico, so [the character is] almost like Mickey Mouse."

Garcia wants to write a book questioning whether a minstrel narrative can be positive and planned to interview Manelick de la Parra, the son of the creator of "Memín." However, as he began planning a trip to Mexico, he realized that de la Parra has a house in none other than Stowe, VT.

"It was ironic," said Garcia. "You think Vermont is so isolated, but here he is."

De la Parra is coming to Garcia's class this Friday to discuss the controversies of the main character of his mother's comic book. He has also donated a collection of "Memín" books to Middlebury so students can further investigate.

"Another thing I like about 'Memín' is that it's written by a woman," said Garcia. "The comic book world is very male-centric, which adds to the controversy."

Garcia's class for next spring fits in with his theme of "fun": a class on Hispanic musicals. Every week the class will study a different country, study its music and then watch a film from a country that highlights the music.

"Students listen to more Spanish music than read the literature," said Garcia. "It's practical for them to know about the music they listen to."

According to Garcia, his classes are only possible because Middlebury is so open.

"At Harvard, they probably would tell me that's not literature," Garcia said. "I love literature, my degree is in comparative literature, but we need to show the different aspects of literature to students."

"People ask me if I would go to a different place," Garcia said. "Well, no, because I don't know if they'd allow me to do this."

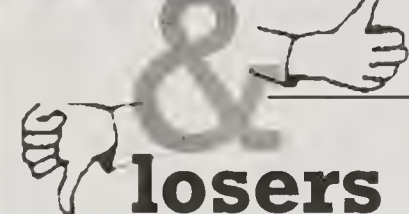
Check out Garcia's YouTube channel:

<http://www.youtube.com/user/Elprofesorquijotesco>



Photo by Paul Gerard

winners



losers

David E. Sanger

MCAB pulls through with its end of year speakers.

Earth Week

In case you didn't know we like the planet.

Sepomana

WRMC delivers more than just music.

Finals Approaches

Just a heads up.

Snow

Gives a new meaning to April showers ...

Runoff Elections

It's hard enough to get people to vote once.

Students explore alternative news sources with MiddBlog

By Rafferty Parke
STAFF WRITER

If Midd Kids are buzzing about something, it is probably up on MiddBlog. Or it will be in an hour or so.

According to the blog's "About" page, "Our only hard and fast rule about submissions is that it must be relevant to the Middlebury College community." Last week's topics included an interview with David Sanger of the *New York Times*, who spoke in Mead Chapel on Wednesday; an informative yet straightforward review of the student-created show *If*; and an introduction to AddSeven, the latest online fad to hit the small New England college circuit.

Founder Ryan Kellett '09.5 initially intended to use MiddBlog to keep students informed about campus events.

"The Middlebury website and even dining hall table tents were sorely lacking and often were inaccurate," Kellett wrote in an email. "I wanted a way to highlight events around campus that students cared about."

During his sophomore year, he approached the founders of Wesleying — a blog run by Wesleyan students — for guidance.

"And they gave me good advice: 'keep blogging, it will take time to build an audience,'" he wrote.

As it turned out, event updates alone did not quite provide the necessary spark. In fact, Kellett traces the first buzz about MiddBlog to his post on Chief Justice John Roberts' lecture in Mead Chapel. The post attracted online comments from President of the College Ronald D. Liebowitz and Vice President for Administration Tim Spears, among others.

"It provoked some legitimate criticism and also some accolades for finally airing student views," Kellett wrote. "The opinion I wrote was certainly not my best but it was enough to get people to start seeing the blog as a digital reflection of discussion on campus."

The blog's tagline reads: "alternative news and more at middlebury college." So what is "alternative news," exactly?

"It means types of coverage that are not part of what people already see," said J.P. Allen '11, one of this year's lead editors. "We're basically focusing on the strengths of a blog, as opposed to traditional print media, to do the things that [a blog] does best."

One such advantage: the option to include links to other relevant pages. For instance, take the April 20 post on the SGA and Community Council elections, which includes links to the candidates' Facebook groups and YouTube videos, where applicable.

In addition, without the restrictions imposed by word limits, bloggers are free to post longer pieces than might fit into a newspaper column. The posts are also instantaneous and give readers the options of commenting, emailing, Facebook posting, Stumbling, and Tweeting. (The blog also has its own Twitter account, @middblog.)

"Instead of being a news source where we're just telling people about something that happened, we try to be a place for discussion as well," said Audrey Tolbert '13, another lead editor. She especially hopes that the blog inspires offline conversation. "It's a way to keep talking about ... this school that we go to and we care about so much."

Kellett agreed: "I would hope the blog stays true to being the hub of conversation and is not afraid to ... take the discussion offline to have the greatest impact of turning discussion into action."

The team behind MiddBlog currently consists of 13 writers, including Allen and Tolbert. Writers frequently post ideas (along with relevant links and commentary) on the group's private Facebook page, where others can then "call" and cover them. According to Allen, they try to produce around two posts per day, with each writer contributing about one per week. The team currently works out of the Old Stone Mill.

In addition to writing their own posts — "the biggest responsibility," according to Tolbert — the lead editors act as facilitators, ensuring that major topics of interest on campus are covered and continually encouraging the writers' online discussion.

"We don't have that many meetings where we're all together in person," Tolbert said, "so I think that making sure we have continued contact, at least virtually, is important to maintain our sense of group and community."

Though the process of article selection and assignment is, as Allen put it, "kind of haphazard," it suits MiddBlog well.

"I think that since we're so small, it works best — right now, anyways — to have people just post when they find out about something," Tolbert said. "It keeps us moving and keeps the news flow good."

Because the blog is not officially affiliated with the College, writers have a great deal of freedom to choose not only what to say, but

Before I started writing for MiddBlog, it was like looking at the community versus feeling really like a part of it.

— Audrey Tolbert

how to say it.

"We can say kind of frivolous or weird things sometimes because we're only responsible for ourselves," Allen said. "And with the sort of freewheeling way we organize it, each writer is more individually responsible because there's less editorial control."

Kellett, who still contributes to the writers' Facebook group and occasionally writes posts, is pleased with how MiddBlog has developed since its inception, citing the lasting impressions of past writers.

"Many students have left their mark on the blog," he wrote. The "Sunday Reading" column, for example — created by Emily Gullickson '10 and continued by Olivia Noble '13 — alerts readers weekly to a handful of current events in an effort to draw students' attention out of "the bubble."

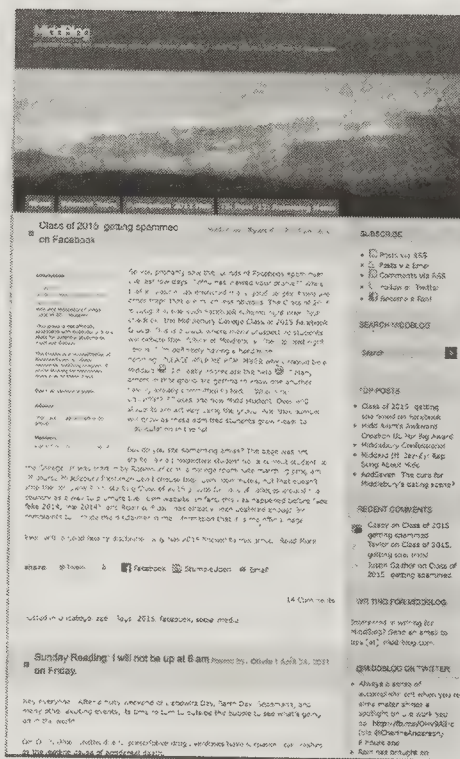
Tolbert and Allen both feel that collaborating on MiddBlog has added greatly to their Middlebury experiences.

"Before I started writing for MiddBlog, it was like looking at the community versus feeling really like a part of it," Tolbert said. She and fellow writer Cody Gohl '13 had collaborated on a blog titled "English Spoken Here" during their summer in Middlebury, which helped to inspire their involvement in MiddBlog. As a result, she said, "I felt like I had a bigger place here than just studying here. ... [I] just [felt] like, this is my school and I can do things to change it."

Allen, who started out with a personal goal to review every arts performance on campus, appreciates the way that MiddBlog has shaped his awareness of the world.

"Instead of just letting an event fly by me, I think for a second, 'Is this something that would be interesting for MiddBlog?'" he said.

Tolbert, Allen and writer Casey Mahoney



'11 recently presented the blog as part of the poster session at the student symposium. Visitors to the station could see the blog, a Twitter feed featuring the hashtag #middsym, and a brief poll asking users for suggestions. They also held a raffle whose winner will be "followed around, blogged and Tweeted about for a day" by writer Mackenzie Beer '12.

"We ... served two purposes, I feel," Tolbert said. "We were both promoting ourselves and showing people what we do, but then also trying to cover the

symposium in general."

Allen was pleasantly surprised by the feedback, particularly from parents and prospective students.

"You're just kind of throwing things out there into the ether of the internet," he said. "You can see how many clicks you get per day, but you don't really know whether what you're saying is actually meaningful to anybody or not. It was really great to hear from a couple of people that that was the case."

In the near future, readers can expect both a redesign of the blog and new ways to get involved.

"We're working on a more fluid way of getting both suggestions for stories and offers from people who want to write or take pictures or do web stuff," Allen said.

For now, though, the editors encourage interested students to email tips@midd-blog.com with their thoughts.

"We really want people to be more involved," Allen said.

Though Kellett was sure to emphasize that the future of MiddBlog is now in the hands of the current team, he expressed certain hopes: that the readership (both on and off campus) continues to expand, and that "it grows into the social web." To clarify, he wrote, "I mean that the Middlebury community is having conversations online but there are very few Middlebury entities engaging people where they are. For example, MiddBlog engages people on Twitter where Middlebury as an institution does not."

"Ultimately," Kellett wrote, "MiddBlog is about getting people (from students to staff) to care about their own community which I would argue is a bigger problem than most people think."

Check out MiddBlog at go/middblog.

Under the Raydar



Each time I have tried to start this column, I have begun with generalizations, enigmatic attempts at profundity, and lines that I am pretty sure have been said before, perhaps by Hallmark or maybe Thoreau.

After four years, we've learned a lot of facts, a thousand names, how to pump a keg properly, how to avoid lines in the gym, how to get over a cold, a funk, a person. And we have learned a lot together. So, instead of trying to piece together my own understandings, I've asked my friends and fellow seniors for their thoughts. Here it is — all of the things we wish we had known sooner:

- The most important education happens outside of the classroom.
- Cook meals with friends — they will always taste better and be more memorable than those nights of chicken parm in the dining hall.
- Stop putting things off until "next semester." It never gets "easier."
- College is a time as well as a place.
- It doesn't really matter what you did in high school, or what you are doing after, really — what matters is that you feel like your time here was well spent.
- When looking up classes to register for DURING the registration period, you can just check that little box next to the class you want and then scroll down and click "register." And then boom! You're done!
- Study abroad isn't filled entirely with fun, and it isn't always easy — but that's what makes it so much more valuable.
- Take the professor, not the course.
- Go to lectures and talks! They are worth an all-nighter or even the reading you will not finish for class.
- The drama department shows are amazing — really amazing. Go to as many shows as possible.
- Use go/papercut. You can print things FROM YOUR LAPTOP.
- Study more during the daytime — between classes, right before class, at six in the morning. When you look back, you don't reminisce about all those nights burning the midnight oil in the library; you think about the times you got dominated by science majors at trivia night at The Grille or stayed up all night with your buddies.
- In Ross, almond milk is in the fridge in the back.
- You don't have to spend hundreds of dollars on books every semester — you can check them all out on ILL and renew them for the entire semester!
- Get outside your comfort zone. Challenge. Question. Fight for what matters to you.
- Armstrong library closes at 6 p.m. — but Public Safety will come to help you get your backpack out.
- Write for yourself. Find meaning in the routine.
- Move forward with confidence. Walk with confidence — literally.
- It is so important to just stay positive — enthusiasm is infectious. Even if what you care about most is organic chemistry, your passion will engage the people around you.
- Don't take yourself too seriously.

On a Monday night, as I let my five-hour-energy drink settle, staring into a poetry project and a research paper-in-the-works, I get a text from my friend asking me if I want to meet up at Two Brothers for beers and an appetizer. I almost respond that I am going to be at the library all night, but I catch myself. I decide to go join her.

Though I have learned immense and powerful things from books, I've learned the most from people, not pages. Listen to each other, lay down your book, learn more, love well, leap higher, use alliteration when possible and never give up on anything that is worth it to you.

Rachael Jennings '11 is from West Chester, Penn.

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- 5:00PM Registration Opens
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Miss Vermont Caroline Bright
- 6:30PM **Survivor Speakers**
Featuring: Linda Schiffer
Ana Martinez-Lage
- 6:40PM **Survivor Lap**
- 7:00PM **DINNER**
- 7:30PM **PERFORMANCES:**
Riddim
Zumba
SIM
On Tap
Mountain Ayres
- 9:00PM **LUMINARIA CEREMONY**
Featuring: Piano Duet
Grady Trela & Liam Gluck
- 9:30PM **FIGHT BACK CEREMONY**
Featuring: Professor Jeremy Ward
Sammi Re '14-5
- 10:00PM **PERFORMANCES:**
Live Band
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Bobolinks

SATURDAY, APRIL 30th

- 6:00AM Breakfast
- 7:00AM Yoga
- 8:00AM **CLOSING CEREMONY**



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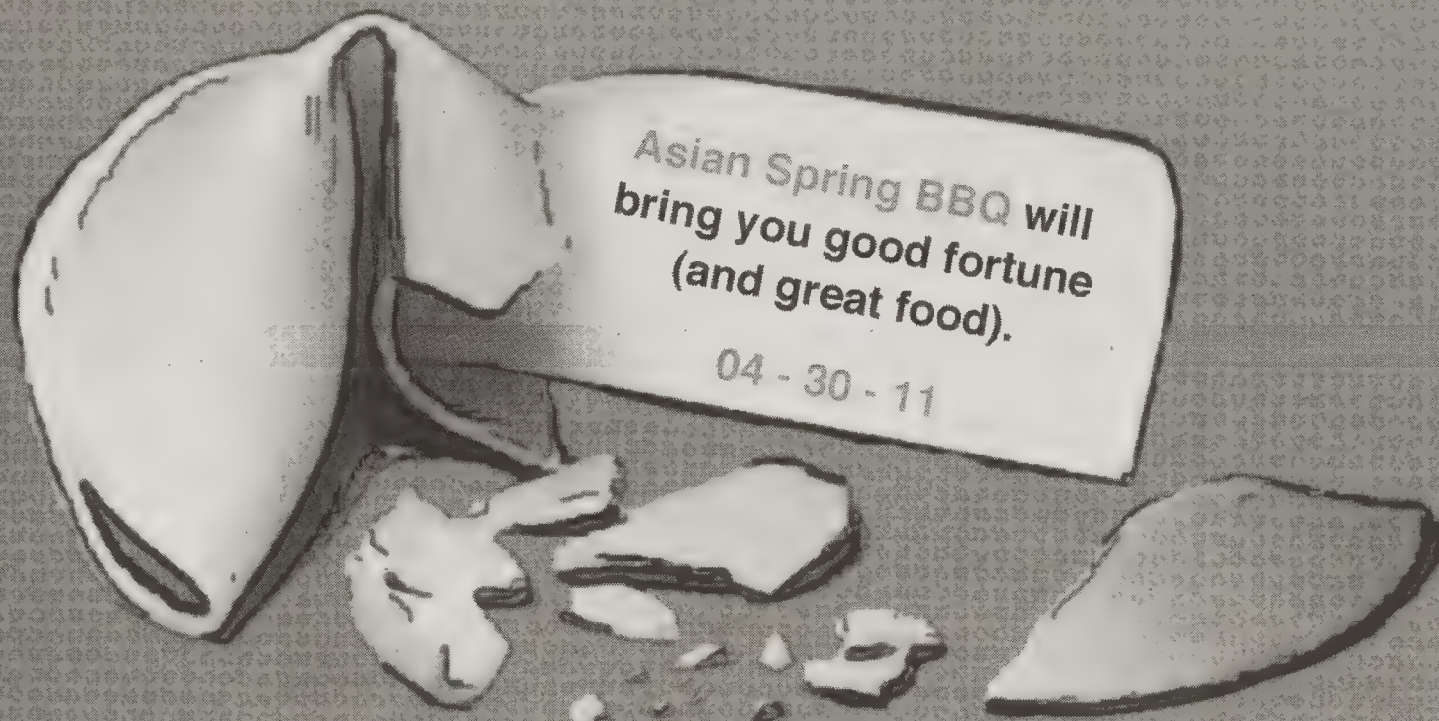
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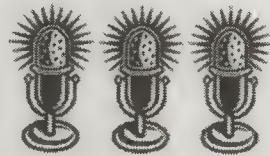
Hindu Student Association + Japanese Club + Korean American Student Association + Middlebury Asian Students' Organization + Middlebury Chinese Society



Saturday, April 30
1 - 4 pm
Axinn Lawn



SEPOMANA



By Tom Clayton
STAFF WRITER

Seopmana, an annual music festival organized by WRMC, brought four acts to the stage Friday night at McCullough Social Space.

Das Racist, Free Energy, Oberhofer, and the Ivorys played for over four hours to a

around stage as if he was "trying to make himself fall down while trying to stay on his feet at the same time," observed Brittany Thomas '14, wearing shoes that looked incredibly slippery, with a drip of curly black hair in his eyes, playing guitar, singing and yelping all the while. They play a brand of rock that proposes

many grooves but refuses to relax into one. The band has received positive notices from internet critics, as well as a great deal of play on WRMC, and many in attendance sang and danced along. Brad Oberhofer is taking the year off from studying piano at NYU to tour with his eponymous band.

Philadelphia band Free Energy played an unabashed brand of rock and roll that had its heyday in the 1970s, in groups like Bad Company, Thin Lizzy and Tom Petty and the Heartbreakers. Their hook-laden, exuber-

ant set found a sweet spot somewhere between glam and power-pop and remained there for the show's duration, eliciting fist-pumps and high-fives from the increasingly sweaty crowd. Lead singer Paul Sprangers gyrated lankily, flanked by the two guitarists whose dexterous interaction buoyed the arrangements and kept the band from sounding derivative. Theirs is a sound that baits comparison and influence-guessing, awash as it is in rock-genre signifiers like finger-tapped guitar solos and power chords. But they brought new life to the well-worn classic rock canon. They sounded like Queen, at times, or Journey — or maybe they have a sound all their own.

They are talented and confident musicians, if not wildly inventive, and the success of their set had as much to do with their attitudes as it did with their music.

"Sweet. This rules," said Sprangers as he took the stage, and all five band members seemed to genuinely have a great time on stage together in front of the crowd. One journalist — scribbling a note about the eccentricities of Oberhofer's footwear into a mini notepad — was struck lightly in the head by the neck of lead guitarist Geoff Bucknum's guitar while Bucknum was mid-shred. Bucknum returned when the song was over to apologize good-naturedly. A minute later he leaned into the crowd while soloing (he soloed melodiously, often, and well) and pressed the body of his guitar into the face of an audience member, who stood still and held his hand to his cheek and stared wide-eyed, as if cured, for the elapsed time

of one sugary chorus, sweaty and emblazoned with all six guitar strings.

The stage was then stripped and drum kits, guitars, microphone stands and the mass

of cables that comprised the gear of the three preceding rock groups was replaced by a folding table on which sat three cordless mics and a laptop computer. This tableau nicely sums up Das Racist's aesthetic: subversive, minimal and funny. It also betrayed the shortcomings of their performance.

Their funny, incisive and intelligent lyrics were often obscured, and at times they so subverted the concertgoers' expectations as to barely perform at all.

A certain tension informed their show. The trio — MCs Heems and Kool A.D. and hypeman Dap — arrived onstage as if unsure of how they got there. Their show was shambolic, invigorating and unsettling. Heems wandered around the stage in socks like a teenager stumbling into the kitchen in the afternoon to breakfast on Pop Tarts.

Kool A.D. made faces and distributed the group's bottled water to the audience. At times, they faced the audience with a mix of indifference and antagonism, which, when in front of a ticket-

holding audience amount to the exact same thing. But at times they were explosively cool. At their best, they tunnel beneath the predictable veneer of contemporary hip-hop and plant their dynamite. Sometimes, as on their first single "Combination Pizza Hut/Taco Bell," they just have dumb fun. Their appeal as rappers has to do with how they

poke fun at hip-hop without sacrificing the things that make it great. They rhyme brilliantly and flow smoothly. They are perhaps the only MCs capable of dropping classicist hip-hop references, vapid internet lingo, nonsense and aspects of the liberal arts curriculum in the same 10 seconds, as they do on "Nutmeg": "Queens Boulevard / Kierkegaard / Hustle hard / hustle hustle / oh em gee / ah ma gard / oh my God." They rap over beats from a range of great producers some of which are catchy and accessible enough to flirt with commercial success. But commercial success is not what this group is after.

Is cool necessarily ironic? It was difficult to tell, watching them perform, how sincere they are, and how engaged, and if they are serious or joking or just stoned. These are questions they cultivate in their music, often explicitly, as in the song "hahahaha jk?," the chorus of which goes: "we're not joking, just joking, we are joking, just joking, we're not joking." Is it nonsense, or an indictment of ironical posturing and our generation's generally insipid discourse? And are they laughing at us, or with us? This tension is what makes their music so vital and interesting. If their

performance Friday night did not successfully answer any of these questions, in posing them they proved why they are a valuable, necessary, and vibrant part of our culture.

They have an obvious love of hip-hop and pop-culture, but rather than emulate the genre's heroes they seemed to treat their own music with ambivalence. Heems was sleepy, and Kool A.D. was goofy; perhaps this explains the presence of hype man Dap, whose



Photo by Andrew Podrygala

Sam White '11 and his band The Ivorys more than held their own alongside professional touring bands.

crowd that grew steadily towards capacity. The acts were sequenced well, giving the night a dramatic progression of revelry in four acts. Power-trio The Ivorys took the stage around 8:30 and played a raucous set to a small but receptive and growing crowd. Oberhofer played an artier and fussier, but no less enthusiastic, set as the place filled. With the endearing and sincerely fun Free Energy onstage, the night reached a climax. Hip-hop threesome Das Racist took the stage and brought the evening to a chaotic, rebellious close.

The Ivorys are a loud, chugging, revivalist rock band from Chicago featuring Sam White '11 on bass. He splits vocal duties with Neil Candelora, the group's versatile guitarist, and the group is anchored by drummer Brendan Lazar. Their songs bow before tested rock



Photo by Elma Burnham

Free Energy singer Paul Sprangers was an exceptionally charismatic, energetic frontman.

values like volume, simplicity and youth.

Four piece band Oberhofer brought a bit more theatricality to the stage. Dressed in polka dots, frontman Brad Oberhofer danced



Photo by Andrew Podrygala

Brad Oberhofer, the eponymous frontman of Brooklyn quartet Oberhofer, gave a passionate performance.

enthusiasm never once flagged.

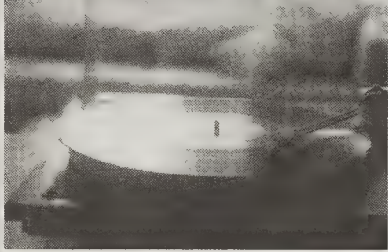
Their particular brand of humor is ironic and subversive, more interested in breaking things down than building a new ... what? That question remains unanswered. On Friday night they began by breaking down stereotypes, cultural norms and, eventually, rock and roll equipment. Throughout the show Kool A.D. strolled to the back of the auditorium to terrorize the gear the three preceding bands had stashed there. At one point he brought the drummer's swivel chair to the fore of the stage and, lying prone on his belly, swiveled 360 degrees while rhyming. Later in the show he set up Oberhofer's glockenspiel and raked his mic across the keys. While samples of distorted guitar played from tracks cued on the laptop, he played air guitar as if



Photo by Elma Burnham

Himanchu Suri (a.k.a. Heems) of Das Racist delivers one of his verses to an appreciative crowd.

he had a very rough idea of how a guitar is played, or what that might look like. Or he was mocking the instrument, or celebrating it, with his own strange brand of exuberance.

FOR THE
record

by Toren Hardee
Artist | Toro Y Moi
Album | *Underneath the Pine*

Chaz Bundick makes music with the sensibility of a DJ more than that of any conventional songwriter. He is a skilled manipulator of mood, texture and ambiance, and both of his albums as Toro Y Moi have been very well sequenced, each track flowing naturally into the next, just like a good DJ set. This sense of flow carried him through his debut, *Causers of This*, but his sophomore LP *Underneath the Pine* has loftier ambitions, and Bundick will need a few more tools in his musical arsenal before he can pull off an album of this scope.

Causers of This was a pleasant little trip through a well-rendered sonic landscape; simple and pretty if a bit underwhelming. *Underneath the Pine* is arguably the stronger record, due to the highs of the moments where it succeeds, but its attempt at a bigger vision ensures that these highs are matched with glaring flaws. Veering away from electronic textures towards a wide array of woozy, warm analog sounds from some unplaceable but distinctly retro era, *Pine* has some interesting, genre-bending moments. Unfortunately, Bundick often gets bogged down in a stew of sonic imitation that leaves the record with a lack of personality.

What's strange, then, is that some of the record's best tracks are the ones that seem the most straightforwardly imitative. "New Beat" and "Still Sound" are prime specimens of a sort of foggy, buttoned-up funk that first appeared on *Causers*. Along with "Go With You" and the surprisingly replayable "Intro Chi Chib" they borrow liberally from French pop like Air and Daft Punk. Here, Bundick nails the atmosphere and genre nostalgia, but unlike much of the album, memorable melodies and tight arrangements are there to support it.

This brings us to the more immediate problem with much of the album: Bundick's flat, bland vocals and his lack of interest in consistently writing memorable hooks and choruses on songs that desperately need them. The cheesy flourishes fueled by genre-worship (harpsichord, out-of-time bongos, straight-outta-Funkytown synths) can work when there's a strong, compelling presence at the center. (Destroyer's newest album could not be a more perfect example of this phenomenon.) But when one of Bundick's almost-monotone melodies and nonemotive vocal performances finds itself in the spotlight, the borrowing feels more like parody than homage, and aimless grooves like "Got Blinded" and "How I Know" become just plain irritating. Despite those aforementioned highlights, this facelessness plagues more than half the album, and such inconsistency leaves me feeling cold when *Pine* runs its course.

Still, the album ends on a positive note, and so will I. Closer "Elise" may be the most impressive song on *Underneath the Pine*, unifying the record's borrowed sonics and its uniquely fuzzy, psychedelic atmospherics and backing it all up with some honest pop moments — namely the emphatic chorus. It's a song that shows he's capable of achieving the unique blend of styles that he shoots for on *Underneath the Pine*, and if he continues to hone his skills as a songwriter while remaining a skilled technician, there may yet be a truly enduring Toro Y Moi album on its way.

NER readings inspire at 51 Main

By Eliza Wallace
STAFF WRITER

Professor of Literary Studies and editor of the critically acclaimed *New England Review* (NER) Stephen Donadio welcomed the room of literary enthusiasts at 51 Main on Tuesday, April 19 to the first night of the NER Vermont Reading Series. He spoke of the project as an endeavor of the NER, in partnership with the Vermont Book Shop, to bring writers out of their normally silent and solitary occupations of contemplation and into the spotlight in front of the public. Some of the readers have been published in the NER and some were unpublished. The readings gave authors and amateurs a chance to enervate their words with their own voices, and offered local residents a night of high quality literary encounters as an audience.

The night started with Kellam Ayres, circulation services coordinator at the College and alumna of the Bread Loaf School of English, who read some of her delicate poems that delved into intimate moments and choices involved with human experience in a very specific place. Castle Freeman Jr., a novelist from Newfane, Vt., read an excerpt depicting "a minor movie star's lecherous weekend at the shore." Hailing from southern Vermont, Ted Gilley read some narrative poems about places he's lived or been affected by, a poignant poem in memoriam to a friend and a droll piece about Pinocchio with lines tinged with satire like, "If I complain at all it's because I'm nearly human." Visiting Assistant Professor of English & American Literatures Kathryn Kramer closed the show, reading from her memoirs.

The chapter she chose was a sharply observant and touching account of her childhood memories of growing up at St. John's College, where her father taught. Her writing was as well-paced and rich as that of Alice Munro or Annie Dillard. She was able to articulate the fleeting profundities we encounter and cannot fully grasp in our youth, but must puzzle out

different displays for the delighted listeners that leaned in from all sides of 51 Main.

The pleasure of attending a literary reading comes from the way a story is nuanced when read aloud by its own writer. The sense and tone is revealed as the author thinks it; the layers of the writers' brain are given color and we have another lens through which to view the work — a direct-from-the-source experience. The page is rich, but the voice and public presence of the author is an exceptional chance for exposure to their work in a completely new light.

Ayres, the first reader, inserted a small side note halfway through her set: "Sometimes when I read this next poem, called 'Graceland,' people feel inspired to tell me their own Graceland story..." It was this comment and a lovely anecdotal poem about a Tennessee trip that followed that made for one of the best revelations of the night. The appeal of a public reading is the sense that afterwards, you can approach the author and add your two cents. If a poem or piece of prose sparked a reminiscence, the ability to walk up to the human face who created that resonating art can make a remarkable connection, taking the words off the page and using them to bring people together in some small slice of human solidarity. As the Vermont Reading Series continues, these serendipitous bonds will very likely grow.

"Reading and writing are lonely activities," said Donadio at the opening of the event, but it seems that this reading series will be a source of connection and community for the wordsmiths of Vermont in the coming months.

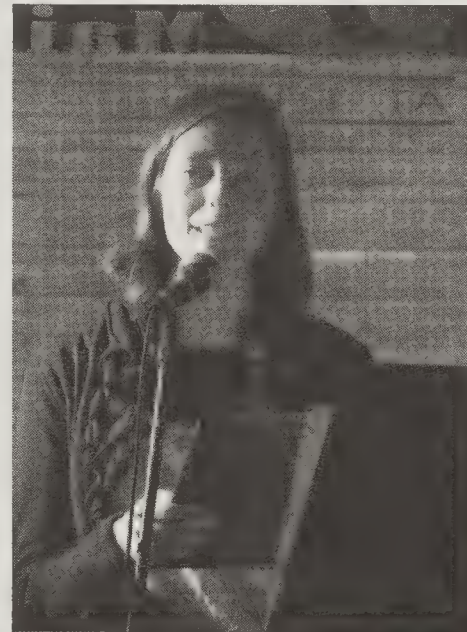


Photo by Eliza Wallace

Kellam Ayres opened the event with poetry.

as we accumulate experience. The depth of her attention and beauty of her honest recollections were crafted into a piece that ended the night of readings perfectly. Each reading was of the utmost quality and provided very

Chamber group plays final recital

By Emily Scarisbrick
ARTS EDITOR

The poster set the bar pretty high: three stylish musicians standing against a rugged backdrop, wielding instruments and sporting aviators. And then there was the program, claiming "we we we so excited to be performing." Yes, last Sunday's recital featuring the musical styling of Sarah Harney '12, Sean Dennison '11 and Zheng Zheng '11 was an event Rebecca Black would have been proud of, and a musical treat for all involved. The group performed a varied and invigorating selection of pieces to a healthy sized audience in the CFA concert hall, showcasing some of the College's finest musical ability that will surely be missed when two thirds of the trio graduate this May.

An unusual and inventive feature of the concert was the variety of instrumentalists — the afternoon opened with a performance of the classic solo cello "Prelude No. 1 in G major" and progressed through two solo violin pieces, a cello and

piano duet and finally a cello, violin and piano trio. To open with a Bach cello suite was a bold move; the piece is probably the best known amongst professional repertoire. It was nevertheless a wonderful listening experience, taken at a steady legato with incredibly delicate higher register.

The performance set the standard for the rest of the afternoon, as Dennison took to the stage to perform Strauss's "Sonata in F major" with Harney. The three-movement work allowed for a full exposition of the pair's lyrical sense; most memorable was the textural variety in the first movement, shifting between solo instrumental sections, moments of dialogue between the two and well-balanced melody and accompaniment. The second movement also allowed the supple phrasing of the piano to shine through, as well as the impressive sound and unity of all their dynamic movements. Ringing higher notes cut through the wallowing cello melody in a soft polyphony.

The second half of the concert again began with solo performances; Zheng's rendition of the prelude to Bach's "Partita No. 3 in E major" was technically astounding. Dennison, who played piano in the first half of the concert, surprised many as he strolled onstage with a violin in hand.

Concert-goer Sarah Barnhart '12

said, "I was really confused. I thought he was the pianist. What was he doing with a violin?" Despite this initial confusion, Dennison's unreal musicianship shone through in his performance of Ysaye's "Sonata in A minor." The piece, a mixture of classical melodies and sudden interruptions, must have been challenging to pull off, and the haunting modality Dennison was able to achieve was a testament to true musical flair. As Barnhart later said, "He stunned me, but there were no tazers involved."

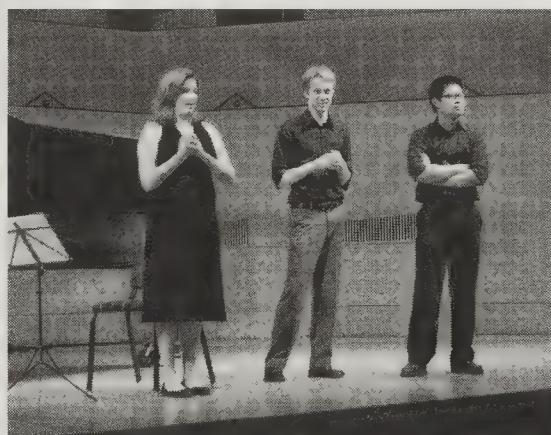
The trio reunited onstage for a final jazzy number, where their musical styles fused to create an energetic finale. The group, which has been performing together since 2009, agreed that it was a great way to end their performance.

"It's been amazing and rehearsals are always fun," said Harney. Although Dennison and Zheng will be leaving the College in May, you can watch for Harney's rich sound in Middlebury College Orchestra performances next year.



Photos by Andrew Podrygala, Photos Editor

Zheng Zheng '11, Sean Dennison '11 and Sarah Harney '12 pose with their instruments onstage at the Concert Hall.



The musicians pause to speak with the audience.



28 **Speed-the-Plow**
Hepburn Zoo
8 p.m. each evening (and 11 p.m. Friday)

Senior work of Willy McKay '11 and Dustin Schwartz '11. Two Hollywood producers face a difficult decision when a beautiful secretary tries to seduce them. Runs through April 30. Tickets \$4.

28 **Victory: Choices in Reaction**
Seeler Studio Theater
8 p.m.

This spring's second faculty show, directed by Professor of Theatre Richard Romagnoli, is an adaptation of Howard Barker's blistering account of 17th century British monarchy. Runs through April 30. Tickets \$6/8/10.

29 **Music, Dance, Light: Performance Improvisation**
Dance Theatre
8 p.m.

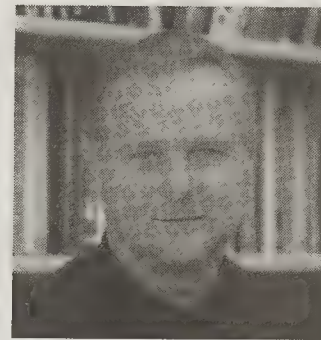
Musicians, dancers and lighting designers from the Performance Improvisation course collaborate in the age-old tradition of composition/improvisation. Runs through April 30. Tickets \$10/8/6.



spotlight ON...

Leger Grindon

Professor of Film and Media Culture



Courtesy

By Deirdre Sackett
ARTS EDITOR

You'd be hard-pressed to find two film genres more different than romantic comedies and boxing movies. Professor of Film and Media Culture Leger Grindon strives to examine and analyze these genres in two new books, *Hollywood Romantic Comedy: Conventions, History, Controversies* and *Knockout: The Boxer and Boxing in American Cinema*.

Though rarely explored in analytical detail, the romantic comedy genre remains a strong force in Hollywood entertainment. *Hollywood Romantic Comedy* builds a canon of key films from the classical era to present day, and offers full analyses of romantic comedy conventions such as dramatic conflict, characters, settings, plots and function of humor. Grindon analyzes films such as "When Harry Met Sally" and "Meet the Parents."

Knockout explores the lesser-known genre of boxing films. The character of the boxer has always shaped America's idea of manhood, but rarely have these films been analyzed in great detail. *Knockout* is the first book-length study of this genre, focusing on dramatic conflicts and social concerns. Grindon relates the Hollywood boxing film to the literature of Jack London and Ernest Hemingway, and also discusses controversies surrounding masculinity, race and sports. In *Knockout*, Grindon analyzes both classic boxing films such as "Rocky" and "Raging Bull," as well as contemporary films such as "Million Dollar Baby" and "The Fighter."

Grindon, who has taught film courses at the College since 1987, is no stranger to writing and publishing — his essays and reviews

have been published in numerous journals such as *Film Quarterly* and *Cinema Journal*. He also served on the editorial board of *Cinema Journal* from 1999-2002.

Middlebury Campus: Tell me about your books.

Leger Grindon: There are two books coming out. One is already out and it is called *Hollywood Romantic Comedy: Conventions, History, Controversies*. The second one is called *Knockout: The Boxer and Boxing in American Cinema*. In some ways, I feel the titles are very descriptive. [*Hollywood Romantic Comedy*] discusses the conventions and history of romantic comedy, the controversies surrounding them and commentaries on 10 films beginning in 1932 [through each decade]. In many ways, the book on boxing films is very similar. Though [boxing films] are not as prominent as romantic comedies, the book talks about the conventions of boxing films, like how they relate to particular stellar fighters in the sport and other social issues. It talks about a series of boxing films, where I argue about the fundamental dramatic conflict that drives the films forward. As you might imagine, boxing films are pertinent to physicality. Most boxing films move until a point where the boxer becomes champion and then begins to decline. A large part of the end of the film, depending on the film, deals with the boxer's waning physical power and how he deals with that. Some boxing films [like "Million Dollar Baby"] deal with the notion that at one point the boxer's physical prowess is the basis of their self esteem. Once that begins to fade, the boxer has to search out other aspects of themselves. The conflict lies in finding other spiritual sources of value apart

from one's physical abilities.

MC: What made you want to write about boxing films?

LG: I wanted to write a book about Hollywood genre. Westerns, romantic comedies, horror films. What I wanted to do was to find a body of Hollywood films organized around particular conventions and storytelling formula. I had this idea that I wanted to explore further that genre films function like cultural myth. They're related to fairytales — they dramatize particular problems widespread within culture. Problems that are complicated, without an easy solution, serve as the basis for a series of films, and no single film can solve this problem. It can only give the audience a particular perspective on a problem. With that in mind, I was thinking about different Hollywood genres that hadn't been explored in much detail, not because I was particularly interested in boxing, but films like "Rocky" and "Raging Bull," or most recently, "The Fighter," hadn't been written about in terms of film scholarship. It was a new and fresh territory. I watched a lot of boxing films and came up with a thesis. I watched the films' historical evolution.

MC: What inspired you to write your second book about romantic comedy?

LG: Ironically, I finished writing the boxing book in 2005 and I was approached by a publisher about writing a book on sports films in general. He suggested sports since he was familiar with my earlier work. But boxing films were a bit on the grim side, so I decided to write about romantic comedy instead. There had already been books written on horror and western films, and so [the publisher] asked me to write a book on

a genre they hadn't covered yet.

MC: Is this your first time publishing?

LG: These are my second and third books. The first book was called *Shadows on the Past* and was published in 1993.

MC: When will these two books be published?

LG: *Knockout* will be published this June. *Hollywood Romantic Comedy* was published a few weeks ago.

MC: How did you approach writing about boxing films?

LG: I was writing all the time. It took me a long time to write the boxing book. I wasn't quite sure about how I was going to approach the problem, and there were a lot of boxing films to watch. It took me a while to get a clear sense of what to do and where I wanted it to go. By contrast with the romantic comedy book, I agreed on a topic and it all went fairly smoothly. But it is patterned on the same approach as the boxing book, just on a different topic. I taught romantic comedy courses so that project went very smoothly, but it still took four years from the time the publisher approached me in 2007 to its completion.

MC: Do you have any future publications planned?

LG: I'm working on a short article on the sequences in "Raging Bull" and some other smaller projects. The next big project, I'm not quite sure. It will probably arise from my teachings and courses. I'll be teaching courses like Hollywood Film Noir, Methods in Film Criticism [and] Hollywood Cinema from 1966-1976.



by Santiago Azpurua-Borras

Game | Portal 2
Platform | PC, PS3, Xbox 360
Rating | Everyone

The original *Portal* was something of an anomaly in the gaming world. What started as an independent project by some students turned into a small game that came packaged in Valve's "Orange Box," a collection of the *Half Life* games, *Portal* and the multiplayer shooter *Team Fortress 2*. *Portal* became one of the biggest memes to hit the Internet. And how could it have not? The game featured amazingly fun gameplay (the likes of which players had never seen before), the lovable Companion Cube and the hilarious-yet-terrifying homicidal super-computer GLaDOS who even sang for you as the credits were rolling. A sequel was inevitable, and we should be thankful.

Portal 2 is everything a sequel should be: it maintains the core mechanics that made the original fantastic while improving on absolutely everything else. The player finds himself or herself in the role of Chell, the silent portal-gun-wielding

protagonist, who is trying to find her way out of an abandoned Aperture Science testing facility before her old rival, GLaDOS, turns up the deadly neurotoxin to 11 and kills her.

The gameplay is largely intact from the original. Chell has a portal gun, and she shoots her blue and orange portals in different places to freely travel between them. The velocity mechanism stays the same as the player travels through portals, so using some clever physics-based gameplay, players will find themselves flying across test chambers to the finish line.

Portal 2 throws a bunch of new mechanics into the mix, such as different colored goos that change the physical properties of the objects they touch, "hard light" that can be used as shields or bridges and gravity funnels that slowly drift you in a single direction. It all makes for very compelling and fun gameplay. However, I couldn't help but notice that despite all these new ingredients added to the mix, the puzzles were generally easier than those in the original. I understand that *Portal 2* is its own product and not a side project meant for a collection; in this manner, Valve wouldn't want to isolate the casual gaming crowd who may grow frustrated and give up. I can see why they would want to do this, and the story is far too amazing to pass up.

Players will be exploring much more diverse environments in this installment. I really can't explain much more without ruining a major plot point, but trust me: it's quite the treat. What I can say is that even the environment feels alive this time around. Since GLaDOS controls the entire Aperture Science facility, she controls the test chambers you must survive. As Chell enters the room, the panels on the wall

readjust or fix themselves (in a seemingly modest way). You can tell that you are inside what is basically a sentient being, which makes the crushing loneliness of the game even more powerful.

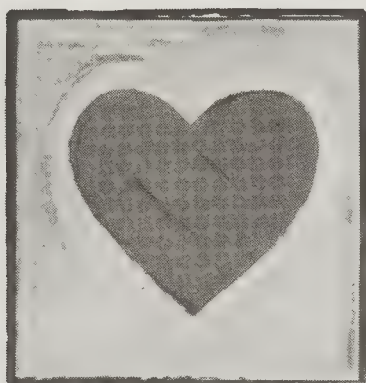
This game also introduces a few new characters to the mix, the most obvious (and hilarious) being Wheatley. Wheatley is a robotic orb with a single blue eye voiced by Stephen Merchant (*Extras*) and delivers a mind-blowing performance. Wheatley, despite being a disembodied orb and only having a few metal panels that he uses to convey emotion, expresses so much personality and is much more believable than any human character I've seen in recent games. There are moments in the game where players can stop what they are doing and just listen to Wheatley talk to himself. Lines of dialogue are never repeated or recycled, and the writing is absolute gold. Backing up Merchant is Ellen McLain, who returns to reprise her role as GLaDOS. McLain brings GLaDOS back to life (literally and figuratively) and through her flawless voice work, she is able to make you fear her in the beginning of the game, then feel sympathy and then even a sense of closeness in the end. As if McLain and Merchant don't rob the show, J.K. Simmons (*Spiderman*, *Juno*) literally comes out of nowhere and delivers some of the funniest dialogue in the entire game. And that is saying a lot, because in terms of humor, *Portal 2* is the funniest game on the market right now. The writing, all the way to the very end of the game, is some of the very best the industry has to offer. The characters are well-developed, the environment grows, back-story is added, the dialogue is hilarious and, shockingly, the protagonist never utters a single word. The single player mode is something that must

be experienced, even if it is a tad short; my final playthrough was about five and a half hours. The last half hour of the game is climatic and ties everything together, yet leaves just enough room for speculation for a third installment of the series. But just because the credits rolled doesn't mean the game is over.

Portal 2 introduces a cooperative mode where two players (each with their own portal gun) must work together to get through an entirely different set of test chambers. Nothing is recycled from the single player mode; even GLaDOS's dialogue is unique to co-op mode. Gameplay can take place either online or on the same console via splitscreen. I highly recommend you play it with someone you know, and in real life sitting next to each other. Not only is it easier to manage each other's directions when together, but it's such a fun and unique experience to share with a friend. The puzzles require legitimate teamwork and there's nothing quite as satisfying as completing a puzzle on the first attempt. Co-op mode also features very useful in-game tools, such as markers that can point out special objects within the environment and even a timer so players can synchronize their actions. Like the game says, "Now you're thinking with Portals." The co-op adds not only an interesting piece to the story, but an additional 4-5 hours to the total gameplay.

Portal 2 is a game that oozes charm and technical finesse. It's an amazing gameplay experience, and you will probably get a laugh or two from it. Occasionally people ask me, "You're 20 years old and in college, why are you still playing video games?" *Portal 2* is now an acceptable answer.

Portal 2 gets a 10/10. Go play it. Seriously.



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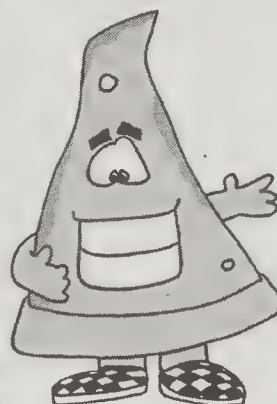
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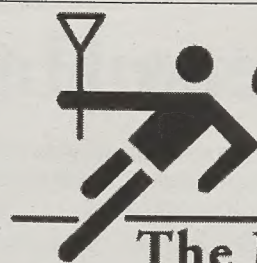
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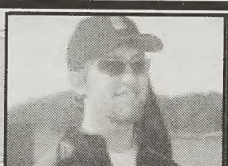
PANTHER SCOREBOARD

Date	Sport	Vs.	Results	Comments
4/22 4/23	Baseball	Hamilton	9-0 W, 9-1 W, 1-0 W	Middlebury could be heading to the postseason following a sweep of Hamilton.
4/23 4/24	Men's Tennis	Skidmore Williams	8-1 W 7-2 W	The Panther men were able to sweep this weekend, advancing to a seven-game winning streak.
4/20 4/22	Women's Tennis	Williams Tufts	7-2 L 7-2 L	It was a rough week for women's tennis, who lost two NESCAC matches.
4/22 4/23	Softball	Amherst	3-2 W, 5-0 W 8-0 W	Ali McAnney '11 and Jessica Poracky '13 earned NESCAC honors after the Amherst sweep.
4/24 4/25	Men's Golf	Williams Invitational	First Place	Jimmy Levins '14 led the Panthers to victory after taking first place overall in the tournament.

BY THE NUMBERS

24	Record number of wins the softball team has achieved this season.
8	Number of consecutive matches won by the men's tennis team.
7	The number of Panther track and field athletes who earned NCAA qualification standards at the Larry Ellis Invitational.
0	Number of games lost by women's water polo during the regular season.
0	Number of New York teams left in the NBA and NHL postseason tournaments.

Editors' Picks



Questions	Alyssa O'Gallagher	Brooks Coe	Dillon Hupp	Alex Edel
Will softball's winning streak continue through their series with Skidmore?	YES They're breaking records all over the place.	YES They have two pitchers with an ERA under one. The Orioles are calling for tips.	YES They can't be stopped, pure and simple.	YES The girls are on fire!
Will men's golf win a third consecutive first-place finish at NESCACs?	NO But they'll be up there.	YES They've beaten the rest of the conference at different times this year. They're the easy favorites.	NO Unfortunately, third time's the curse for these guys.	YES They won last weekend without home court advantage.
Will the men's lacrosse game vs. Williams be decided by two goals or less?	NO What is an Eph anyway?	NO We'll win by more than that.	YES With Deane '11 in goal, we're bound to stay in this game.	YES Both teams are bitter rivals, and this is sure to be a close game.
Will baseball be able to take a game from powerhouse Trinity?	YES One for two ain't bad.	YES The pitching's been much improved this year. One of the starters will step up.	YES These guys are riding high, and Trinity is struggling in a big way this year.	YES We are on a roll this year and Trinity is not as good as usual.
Who will go first in the NFL draft on Thursday night?	NICK FAIRLEY I've heard he's "Fairley" good. Get it?	CAM NEWTON Because some blog that was the first link in my Google search said so.	CAM NEWTON And he will never win a playoff game as a starting QB in the NFL. Write it down.	CAM NEWTON He's already been getting paid for two years, he might as well get picked first.
Career Record	90-75 (.545)	47-60 (.439)	60-47 (.561)	23-21 (.523)

Baseball sweeps Hamilton, headed to playoffs?

By Dillon Hupp
SPORTS EDITOR

The Middlebury College baseball team swept Hamilton last weekend and, in the process, may have just swept their way into their first postseason appearance since 2007, and only their second appearance of all time. The victories over the Continentals helped the Panthers improve their record to 12-9 on the season, and, more importantly, 8-4 in NESCAC west play, which determines their playoff seeding. First-place Amherst also sits at 8-4 in the conference, but holds the tiebreaker over Middlebury due to their better overall record and series victory over the Panthers. Third place Wesleyan will need to sweep the Lord Jeffs this weekend in order to eliminate the Panthers from playoff contention. Anything other than a Wesleyan sweep will see Middlebury playing postseason baseball this spring.

"It was really special going into the Hamilton series with something to play for down the road," said outfielder Murph McCurdy '12. "I

think top to bottom we were really focused and dialed in, and we were able to record our second sweep of the season."

The Panthers' series against Hamilton marked their most dominant all-around team performance to date this year. Middlebury outscored the Continentals 19-1 over the three games of the series, and saw stand-out performances from their pitching staff. Additionally, catcher Zach Roeder '12 was named the NESCAC player of the week for his offensive output in the series.

Middlebury opened the home series with Hamilton with a Friday doubleheader in which the Continentals, to put it politely, never had a chance. In game one, the Panthers jumped out to a lead right away thanks to an RBI single from Roeder and an RBI double from Michael Morris '13. Middlebury would score methodically in the early and middle innings thanks to RBIs from Will Baine '12, Joe Conway '13, and Tyler Wark '12, eventually taking an 8-0 lead after the bottom of the fifth. That would be more

than enough support for Middlebury starter Michael Joseph '13, who allowed only four hits and struck out six in what would be a 9-0 Panther victory.

Game two on Friday started out as though it might be a close contest, scoreless through four. However, Middlebury was able to break the game open in the bottom of the fifth thanks to a three-RBI double from Roeder, and from there the flood gates were open. Middlebury added three more runs in the sixth, one in the seventh, and two in the eighth on their way to the easy victory. Hamilton was able to plate only one run in their half of the sixth inning, as Middlebury starter Nick Angstman '11 went seven strong to improve to 3-0 on the season.

The third game of the series on Saturday was for baseball purists; a pitching duel that saw only one run scored between the two squads. Luckily for the home nine, that run was for Middlebury, and would be all they needed to complete the three-game sweep of the Continentals. John Wiet '13 put in an inspired performance on the

mound for Middlebury, allowing just three hits and striking out six in the complete-game shut-out. Middlebury manufactured the only run of the game in the third, when Roeder singled and was advanced around the bases by the middle of the Panther batting order before being plated by an Alex Kelly '14 RBI single.

Middlebury now waits anxiously for the results of this weekend's Amherst-Wesleyan series. Should Amherst be able to take at least one game out of three from the Cardinals, Middlebury will advance to the NESCAC playoffs as the second-seed out of the west.

"The thing about NESCAC playoffs is once you're in, anything can happen," said McCurdy. "I think given the opportunity, our team will go out and give a real run of something we've always dreamed of: a NESCAC championship."

The Panthers will travel to struggling Trinity this weekend for a pair of games that are important to the team's overall record but otherwise inconsequential in terms of their playoff aspirations.

Women's lacrosse takes nail-biter over Jumbos

By Jamie Burchfield
STAFF WRITER

The Middlebury Panthers advanced to 9-4 last week with two strong wins over Skidmore and Tufts. On April 21, the Panthers trumped Skidmore 19-2 on Kohn Field, furthering their streak of now 24 wins against the Thoroughbreds. The Panthers scored 14 goals in a row, including netting two in an impressive 18-second period.

Middlebury had nine different scorers: Sally Ryan '11 led with six goals of her own, followed by Lucy Jackson '12 with three tallies and Ellen Halle '13 with two goals and two assists. Casey Flight '14 earned her first collegiate goal and Michaela Colbert '13 won six draw controls in the contest. Riding off this decisive victory, the Panthers traveled to Tufts on April 23.

"After a couple of close NESCAC games against Trinity, Amherst and Colby," said Jackson, "I think it was huge to come out on top against Skidmore, giving us the confidence we needed for the Tufts game."

The 11th-ranked Panthers took an early 3-0 lead against the #13 ranked Jumbos thanks to a goal and an assist from Halle. Tufts fired back to set the score at 4-4, but the Panthers did not let down and Margaret Souther '13 capitalized off a pass from Ryan with 4:30 remaining in the half to give the Panthers a 5-4 advantage at intermission.

The second half was an exciting one; the Jumbos came out strong and took a 6-5 lead. The Panthers responded with goals from Souther and Ryan before the teams traded the next six goals back-and-forth. Tufts scored at 14:22 of the second half to produce the games sixth tie at 9-9.

Off the next draw, Ryan took possession of the ball, bringing it down the field to fire home the game-winning goal with 14:10 remaining in the game. Ryan now leads the NESCAC con-

ference with goals and goals per game.

"Saturday's game was a true team win," said Liz Garry '12, "From the little things like making good passes and catches, to scoring big goals and getting draw controls, to all the cheering on the side lines; everyone played such a big part in the win."

Because of junior goalie Lily Nguyen's '12 crucial save off a Jumbo free-position shot, a strong effort by Ryan, Souther, and Garry, and great, composed team play all around, the Panthers were able to stall the rest of the game until about the two minute mark.

Here, Tufts junior Kelly Cakert caused a turnover and captured the ground ball.

"When we did lose the ball, the defense did a great job of holding their own and getting it right back," said Souther. "Heather Marrison '13 had some key blocks towards the end of the game."

After a time out, the Jumbos turned the ball over before they could take any more shots against the Panthers and thus Middlebury was able to walk away with the victory. Nguyen, who has the highest save percentage in the NESCAC conference, had four saves in the contest. Halle applauded her team's ability to remain calm despite Tufts' high-pressure defense.

"It was a great team win as everyone definitely had a part," she said. "We played a very smart, controlled game that I think culminated in our successful stall at the end of the game." Ryan agreed with Halle's appreciation of the effort of everyone on field.

"Everyone contributed in one way or another which was why we were so successful," she said.

Looking ahead, the Panthers are ready to peak in the postseason and redeem their first round loss last year against the Colby Mules.

Middlebury travels to Williams this Friday eager to end the regular season on a high note.



Andrew Podrygula, Photos Editor

After tying the game at eight, Middlebury allowed three unanswered goals to take the loss.

Panthers fall short versus fourth-ranked Tufts

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 24

said attackman Jack Balaban '11. "He has a unique ability to keep us in games even when the rest of the team isn't playing well, and that's an extremely valuable asset."

However, even another strong effort from Deane couldn't lift the Panthers past Tufts. Deane made 14 saves and allowed 11 goals as the Panthers fell for the fourth straight time against the Jumbos in the past two years. The Panthers opened the first quarter on a 3-0 run with goals from Pfeffer, Conner and George Curtis '14. The Jumbos responded with a 3-0 run of their own, but after another Middlebury tally from Giodano, the Panthers led 4-3 after one quarter.

From this point on, the game proved to be back and forth, putting the score at 8-8 with 13:25 remaining in the fourth quarter.

However, the Jumbos would shut down the Middlebury offense and score three goals of their own over the last 11:37, making the final 11-8. Despite the loss, Clark sees the game as a bright spot.

"I thought we played very well against Tufts, possibly our best game of the year even though we didn't win," said Clark. "We'll look at the film, learn from it, and move on." Balaban added that the four straight losses to Tufts give the team extra motivation.

"The only effect the Tufts' loss has is that everybody wants to beat them even more," said Balaban. "Hopefully we'll get another shot."

The Panthers now need a win this Friday against Williams or a Wesleyan loss to clinch home field advantage for the first NESCAC tournament game slated for May 1.



Andrew Podrygula, Photos Editor

Middlebury held off Tufts attacks to persevere and take the one goal victory on the road Saturday.

Men's tennis continues to win

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 24

The Panthers also faced stronger competition from the Williams doubles teams. Peters and Jones edged the Ephs number one team of Bryan Chow and Matt Micheli 8-6 and Spencer Lunghino '13 and David Farah '12 squeaked out a 9-7 win in the third doubles match. Only the second doubles team of Mike Malhame and Derrick Angle won comfortably as they rolled by the Ephs Trey Meyer and Felix Sun 8-2.

Andy Peters highlighted their match as a turning point for the other doubles teams. "Michael Malhame and Derrick Angle had a very decisive win in the number two doubles match which gave tremendous momentum to

the other doubles teams," he said.

The Panthers hope to carry over their momentum to their showdown at fourth-ranked Amherst this weekend. The Lord Jeffs are an impressive 28-1 (7-0 in NESCAC) this season.

Despite the magnitude of the match, Peters downplayed the importance of beating Amherst. "The goal is to improve, he said. "We don't really have any result-oriented expectations, such as winning or losing. We have put in the hard work and take care of the little things. I expect us to compete hard for every point and to leave everything on the court. Those have always been the expectations of this program, and that is the way we approach every match."

Result driven or not, the Panthers want to

Men's golf wins at Williams by two strokes

By Alex Edel
SPORTS EDITOR

While the women's golf team had an off weekend, the men's team competed in the Williams invitational, coming away in first place. The invitational, named Williams NESCAC Spring Opener hosted six NESCAC schools in the last competition before the NESCAC Championships next weekend at Middlebury.

Five Middlebury golfers competed in the tournament. Jim Levins '11 earned medalist honors for his first place finish this weekend with a score of 71. After a harder first day, Levins was tied for fourth with a score of 39 points. However on Sunday, Levins came away with shooting a 32, a score five strokes ahead of any other player's Sunday score.

Next for the Panthers was Robert C. Israel '13, who tied for fourth place with a two-day score of 75. Fellow sophomore, William Prince '13 followed Israel shooting a 78 to tie for ninth. To finish up for the Panthers was Brian Cady '11, just one stroke behind Prince with a score of 78 in 13th place, and Max Alley '14 in 22nd place with a score of 81.

"I think that we showed ourselves that we are making good progress and that we've been putting in solid practices over the last few weeks, even though conditions haven't been ideal," said Levins. "We have to keep doing what we've been doing and continue to have confidence in our individual games and our ability as a team."

Middlebury earned a two-day score of 301, two strokes ahead of NESCAC rival Williams who had a two-day score of 303.

After winning the NESCAC qualifiers during the fall season, the team was able to win the bid in order to host the NESCAC championships this coming weekend. The Vermont weather is always in question when competing in outdoor sports in the harsh conditions which living in Middlebury brings.

"I believe rain is predicted for the next few days, so the course will be wet and playing longer than usual for the tournament," Levins said. "We've been playing in these types of conditions for the past month, so I would say our preparation is on par with what we'll see this weekend."

Last year, the team placed fourth at the Williams Invitational and came second at the NESCAC Championships which were hosted by Williams. Trinity edged out the Panthers from winning the title.

Women's tennis ends five game winning streak

By Alex Edel
SPORTS EDITOR

The women's tennis team suffered two hard felt losses this week to two NESCAC rivals. On Wednesday, the women were defeated by Williams at home, and then traveled to Tufts where they lost 7-2. These losses brought an end to a five game winning streak and brought them to 8-3 overall, 4-2 in league.

Against Williams, the Panther women came out with two wins and seven losses. The two wins came from the number one and two doubles players. Brittany Faber '13 and Leah Kepping '13 in the number one doubles spot were able to beat Lucy Marchese and Nikki Reich of Williams in a close 9-8 win.

Victoria Aiello '12 and Anna Burke '12 also were able to beat out their Eph competitors in the number two spot with another close win. Early on the pair were down 7-4, but were able to come out victorious with a final score of 9-7.

All the singles matches were lost, although most were close matches. Kepping was able to draw her match against Eph player Nancy Worley into three sets. Kepping won the first set 6-2, but was beaten out in the next two sets, 6-4, 6-4.

Three days later, the team traveled to Tufts where they were defeated, winning two doubles matches and very closely defeated in two singles matches. Faber and Kepping again won in the number one singles place

8-6, while Sally Wilkey '12 and Dorrie Paradies '14 trumped their Jumbo rivals 8-3.

In singles play, both Faber and Wilkey drew their matches out into three sets. Faber fought hard in each set, losing the first 7-5, winning the second after several tie breakers, 6-7 and losing the third 10-7. Wilkey played against Lauren Hollender of Tufts in the number four spot, losing the first set 7-5, winning the second 3-6, but ultimately falling in the third 6-0.

The team will play Skidmore at home on Saturday, and Amherst at home on Sunday, finishing up this season's regular play. The NESCAC Championship tournament will begin the following week, which may result in a bid to play in the NCAA tournament.

Panther runners compete despite bad weather

By Maggie Moslander
STAFF WRITER

The Middlebury track and field Team managed to shake off the disappointment of its only home meet being postponed due to bad weather and come up with impressive performances at the Larry Ellis Invitational at Princeton University on Friday night. By the end of the meet, four school records had been broken and seven athletes had qualified for NCAA Championships.

Junior Margo Cramer '12 broke the school record and set a new NESCAC record in the 1500m, with a time of 4:27.85; Middlebury's previous record time in that event stood for 32 years before Cramer broke it Friday. Amanda Lee '11 also broke the school record in the 3000m steeplechase, qualifying for NCAA Championships in the process.

Following the lead of their female team-

mates, Jack Davies '13 and Michael Schmidt '12 also broke school records and qualified for NCAAs, with Davies giving an impressive performance in the 3000m steeplechase and Schmidt coming up with a time of 14:17.15 in the 5000m race. Schmidt attributed his success to the team's momentum on Friday night, saying, "I raced in the last event, so I got to see everyone else run really well; it's motivating to see all your teammates crush it race after race and also puts a little pressure on you to keep the fast times coming."

He continued, "Princeton is an exciting meet because it's at night, under the lights, and has great competition, so the energy is high and we go in ready to run fast and hope for PRs."

The team certainly showed up ready to go at Princeton; in addition to breaking the four school records, three other runners qualified for

NCAA Championships. Erin Toner '11 qualified for NCAAs in the 1500m, Addie Tousley '13 qualified in the 5000m, and Juliet Ryan-Davis '13 qualified in the 800.

In addition to qualifying for NCAA Championships, Ryan-Davis was also named NESCAC Performer of the Week. Following up on a strong winter season, Ryan-Davis has had an excellent season thus far this spring.

"My success is because of such a great training group--I've trained with both the sprints group, coached by Martin Beatty, and the distance group, coached by Nicole Wilkerson," said Ryan-Davis.

The Middlebury track and field team's biggest test will come this weekend at the NESCAC championships at Wesleyan. Middlebury track and field remains in its strongest position in years to take home the NESCAC title.

Should the draft-goers no-show?

Consider this hypothetical situation.

In an attempt to boost Middlebury's rankings in the *Princeton Review*, President of the College Ronald D. Liebowitz decides, under pressure from professors and administration, that the following changes will be implemented for the upcoming school year: The grading scale will change such that the A range starts at 93 instead of 90, that tuition will increase by 50 percent and exams will finish in June instead of May.

Students protest the future changes by refusing to take exams this spring and have stopped attending classes. The SGA announces that unless Liebowitz nixes his demands, no students will attend Middlebury for the 2011-2012 school year.

Some prospective first-years decide to go to other colleges, but others stick with Midd anyway, believing that the situation will be resolved in time for the school year to begin. Students accepted Early Decision don't have a choice in the matter while Febs celebrate as they embark on their Febmasters, avoiding the strife completely.

As summer comes to a close and students and administration remain at odds, the College starts to wonder if incoming freshman will show up for orientation. Will they come to Middlebury with the school year hanging in the balance? Will they be present for convocation and shake Liebowitz's hand as he welcomes them to college? This is, after all, a once in a lifetime opportunity that they have to meet the incoming first-years and hear Liebowitz's opening speech.

Of course they won't. Why would they? Shaking President Liebowitz's hand during convocation in Mead Chapel would be as foolish as NFL rookies greeting the NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell tonight at the NFL draft at Radio City Music Hall. Oh wait.

A record 25 NFL rookies will attend the NFL Draft. In the middle of a lockout, in which the Commissioner represents all that the players stand against, more players will attend the Draft than ever before.

Tonight Goodell will stroll to the podium, adjust the microphone and say, "With the first pick of the 2011 NFL draft, the Carolina Panthers select..." And it won't matter if Cam Newton, Marcel Dareus or Patrick Peterson walks out of the green room adjusting his new Panthers hat, what matters is that the first overall draft pick, and 24 others, will have made the trip to New York to attend the NFL Draft.

Though the owners and players are farther than ever from coming to a new Collective Bargaining Agreement, the NFL Draft will take place as if there is nothing amiss. Players will shake Goodell's hand and flash million dollar smiles, all while competing to see who can wear the most horrendous suit.

Suggestions from the NFL Player's Association for players to boycott the draft have fallen on deaf ears. The top prospects that will likely be selected in the first round are unwilling to forfeit the incredible opportunity to attend the NFL Draft. Instead, they will dutifully stand up when their names are called and awkwardly embrace the man who is at the heart of their problems.

The Draft is a special moment for rookies, and even more so for those fortunate enough to be invited to attend the draft. But by attending the draft these young players are fueling Goodell's agenda for the lockout. If these rookies are setting records for attendance at the draft in April how can they possibly expect to sit out their entire rookie seasons afterwards?

Stay home first-years. And if you have to go, don't stand up when your name is called.

— Damon Hatheway '13 is a staff writer from London.

The Middlebury Great Eight

Rank	4/21	Team	Dillon's Discourses
1	1	Men's tennis (16-1)	The power of the stache continues — men's tennis holds on to the top spot.
2	—	Baseball (12-9)	The Panthers swept the Continentals, and might have swept their way into the postseason in the process.
3	3	Softball (24-4)	These girls couldn't lose if they tried — they've won 14 games in a row.
4	5	Men's golf	Two wins in a row — it's like they're trying to make a statement or something.
5	6	Women's lax (9-4)	Someone had to beat Tufts. Thank goodness the girls were up to the task.
6	2	Men's lax (9-3)	The bros couldn't defend their home turf against the Jumbros.
7	4	Women's tennis (8-3)	The girls came crashing back to earth after a couple of crushing losses to NESCAC foes.
8	—	Track and field	This one is for Juliet Ryan-Davis '13- NESCAC female performer of the week!



Andrew Podrygula, Photos Editor
I'm running out of good things to say about the men's tennis team. They just keep winning.

Men's tennis dominates on home court

By Damon Hatheway
STAFF WRITER

The men's tennis team demonstrated yet again why it's deserving of the number one spot in the country over the weekend with two dominant performances over Skidmore (8-7) and tenth-ranked Williams (8-3, 3-2 in NESCAC). With the pair of wins the Panthers improved to 16-1 (6-0) on the season and have now won 67 straight matches at home. Andy Peters '11 headlined the weekend with four wins over the weekend, two of which were against ranked opponents.

Saturday Peters and first year Brantner Jones '14 defeated the fifth-ranked doubles team in the nation from Skidmore College 9-8 in a tightly contested match. The 21st-ranked team of Peters and Jones defeated Spencer Cheng and Jimmy Sherpa, improving their doubles record to 9-1 on the season.

Peters and Jones also recorded singles victories over Skidmore. The Senior tri-captain downed the Thoroughbreds' Luke Granger 6-3, 6-0 in the top singles position and Jones defeated Alex Fromson 6-4, 6-2 in the fifth singles match.

The Panthers won all three doubles matches against the Thoroughbreds, dropping only the second singles match as Oliver Loutsenko of Skidmore edged the Panthers Zach Bruchmiller '14 6-4, 6-4. The loss marked the only two sets that the Panthers lost in an 8-1 victory.

Despite the loss on Saturday, Bruchmiller played a key role in the Panthers win on Saturday against Williams. The Panthers comfortably defeated the tenth-ranked team in the country 7-2 as Peters and Bruchmiller starred. Bruchmiller, a first year from San Antonio, defeated Matt Micheli of Williams, the 31st-ranked singles player 7-5, 7-5.

"Williams is obviously one of our conference rivals and it is nice to get a win over them because it shows the depth of our line-up," said tri-captain Andy Peters. "This is one of the most complete teams that I have ever played on. We really have no holes; everybody competes hard and knows how to win."

The number one singles match featured one of the season's best matchups as tenth-ranked Andy Peters faced the number two singles player in the country, Felix Sun. Saturday marked the third time Peters and Sun have faced one another with Peters leading the series 1-0 as their second match wasn't finished. Peters held the upper hand again, defeating Sun 6-3, 5-7, 6-2.

"I served really well," Peters said. "He does a good job at making you feel uncomfortable out on the court. He doesn't give you a good rhythm and he makes a lot of balls. Coming into the match, I knew it was going to be tough, and I tried to weather the storm and capitalize on big points."

The rest of the Panthers followed suit. Middlebury once again swept all three doubles matches and won four of their six singles matches. Nearly all of the singles



Andrew Podrygula, Photos Editor

Andrew Peters '11 took down second-ranked Felix Sun of Williams.

matches were close as four were decided either in the third set or by ten point tiebreakers. The Panthers came up with clutch performances, winning three of the four.

Both Alec Parower '13 and Brantner Jones came from down a set to defeat their opponents.

Parower beat the Ephs fourth singles player Zach Weiss 4-6, 7-6, 10-4 (tiebreak) and Jones roared back after dropping the first set to stun Dylan Page 5-7, 6-1, 6-3 in the sixth singles match.

SEE MEN'S TENNIS, PAGE 22

Pitcher of the Week

Pitcher Ali McAnaney '11 was named Pitcher of the Week for the softball team, who swept Amherst and Plymouth State in a double header. The wins bring Middlebury's (24-4) winning streak to 16 games, a new school record.



Andrew Podrygula, Photos Editor

Swim coach resigns

By Dillon Hupp
SPORTS EDITOR

After 14 years of service to Panther swimming and diving, men's and women's swimming and diving coach Peter Solomon announced his resignation on Monday night, April 25. The members of the swim teams were informed Monday night and have since been instructed by members of the athletic department administration not to discuss Solomon's resignation with members of the press.

In a statement released by the athletic department, Solomon said, "I feel fortunate to have worked for Middlebury College and to have represented the athletic department for the past 14 years. I am grateful that as I grew up, I had some excellent coaches and role models. I wanted to give back to the sport that was such an important part of my development. Middlebury has provided me with a wonderful opportunity."

In the same statement, Director of Athletics Erin Quinn shared his thoughts on Solomon's resignation.

"Peter Solomon has inspired numerous swimmers at Middlebury to give their best, and his work as a coach is reflected in the many friendships he has with alumni," Quinn said. "The College is very thankful for his years

of service and wishes him well as he moves on to his next challenge."

President of the College Ronald D. Liebowitz received several members of the men's and women's swim teams during his open office hours on Tuesday in response to Solomon's resignation. In February, all members of the women's swimming and diving teams except for first-years were forbidden from competing in team meets after allegations of hazing were brought forth by the administration. A portion of the men's swim team's schedule was also canceled due to the same allegations.

During Solomon's tenure as head coach, Middlebury swimming and diving won numerous individual national championships, most recently by John Dillon '11 in 2010 and 2011 in the . The men's team was the NESCAC champion in 2002, and the women finished as the NESCAC runners-up five times. Solomon was named New England's Division III coach of the year four times during his tenure, and NESCAC coach of the year three times. Additionally, he served as Director of the Natatorium, the College's swimming and diving facility. The College has no immediate plans for replacing Solomon at this time.

Panthers stumble vs. Jumbos, could host NESCAC quaterfinal

By Owen Teach
STAFF WRITER

Heading into last week's play, the Middlebury men's lacrosse team was 10 games into the season, and with their two losses only by a combined three goals, the team looked to be playing some of its best lacrosse with the NESCAC tournament looming in the near future.

This past week saw the Panthers play a pair of home games against Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (RPI) on Tuesday and conference arch rival Tufts on Saturday—a good measuring stick for the team's prowess as the Panthers lost three close games against the Jumbos last season.

The 10th-ranked Panthers faced off against RPI last Tuesday at Youngman field, and it did not take long for these two offenses to assert themselves. The Panthers went up 2-0 by the 12:46 mark on a pair of goals from Peter Jennings '12 and David Hild '11. However, RPI responded with its own 3-0 run in the next 2:36 to grab the lead at 3-2. Erich Pfeffer '13 then scored to knot the game at 3, before RPI cranked out another three goals to open its largest lead of the day at 6-3. Alex Giammarco '11 and Andrew Conner '11 then added a goal each to have the Panthers trailing 6-5 at the end of the first quarter.

After a largely scoreless second quarter, RPI pushed its lead to 7-5 at the 6:15 mark. However,

from that point on in the game it was all Panthers as the squad went on a 6-0 run spanning late into the third quarter. RPI scored twice more throughout the course of the game, as the final ended up 13-9.

The aforementioned run, lead almost completely by the Panthers' leading scorers, is a good example of how dangerous this team can be when it gets on a roll. With points from Tim Cahill '12, Conner, Mike Giordano '13 and Hild, the Panthers buried RPI with almost an entire quarter left in the game.

"We have some kids on the team that can really put the ball away," said Henry Clark '12. "Hild, Cahill, Conner and Giordano have been threats all season, and it gives our team a lot of confidence when the offense is clicking like that."

Goalie Ryan Deane '11.5 is another reason why this team is so formidable, as he made 13 saves against RPI.

"Deane makes saves that other goalies simply aren't making,"

SEE PANTHERS, PAGE 22



Andrew Podrygula, Photos Editor

Mike Giodarno '13 and the Panthers could not hold off the Jumbos at home.

this week in sports

Track and field
Juliet Ryan-Davis was recently named the NESCAC Female Performer of the week, page 23



games to watch
Men's lacrosse vs. Williams, Friday, 4:30 p.m.
Women's tennis vs. Skidmore, Saturday, 2 p.m.



Baseball
The Panthers pitching staff shut down Hamilton over the weekend, page 22.